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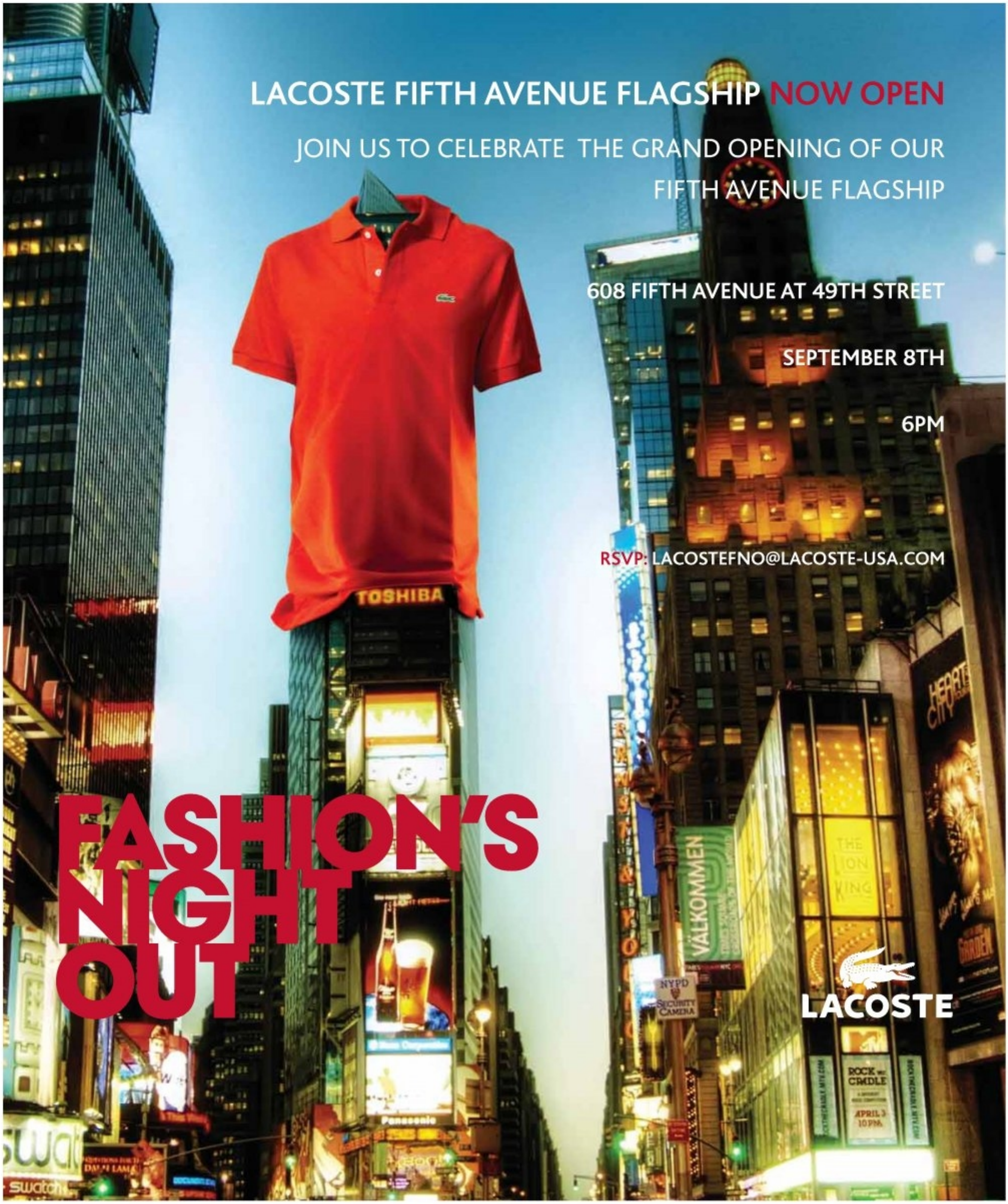
NEW YORK • Wednesday, September 7, 2011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How does the world see We the People?

- Everyone is watching as bipartisanship fails in the United States, eroding our image abroad {page 12}
- Middle East offered its condolences after 9/11, but continued action on their soil spoils goodwill {pages 16-17}

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Cop charged with child porn

▶ Steiner

WEST BABYLON, N.Y. An NYPD auxiliary police officer was arrested Monday for allegedly owning and promoting child pornography. According to the Suffolk County Police Department, officers arrested Patrick Steiner, 42, of West Babylon, for having digital pornographic images of children after an undercover sting that traced people who trade online child pornography. He was charged with five felony counts of child pornography. Along with serving as a volunteer sergeant with the NYPD's Auxiliary Police, Steiner also works with Starlight Entertainment, a disc jockey music service that performs at parties and special events, according to the police. He was scheduled for arraignment at First District Court in Central Islip, Long Island. METRO/AB

Rebranding Ground Zero

Mayor wants New Yorkers and the rest of America to stop using those words ◐ Says the site is no longer a place of destruction, but growth ◐ Wants New Yorkers to get used to calling it 'World Trade Center' instead

"It needs its own identity, and I thought the 'Freedom Tower' fit." ON-SITE IRONWORKER

What's in a name?

A lot, according to Mayor Michael Bloomberg — especially when talking about the nation's most sacred site.

Bloomberg said yesterday that New Yorkers should stop saying "Ground Zero," saying the site had changed from a dusty, stalled construction zone to a memorial now sporting the tallest tower in Lower Manhattan, and when completed, the tallest in New York.

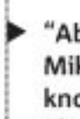
"We will never forget the devastation of the area that came to be known as Ground Zero, never," Bloomberg said at a speech on Wall Street yesterday. "But now the time has come for us to call those 16 acres what they are — the World Trade Center and the September 11th Memorial and Museum."

Others agree.

"In the years right after, almost everyone called it Ground Zero," said Julie Menin, chair of Community Board 1 downtown. "But now that we're days away from opening this, it's so important that we know the site now as the place of the final memorial."

Meanwhile, construction workers building the site are still getting used to the tower's name — changed to "One World Trade Center" from "Freedom Tower" in 2009.

Port Authority director Chris Ward said last week that the name "Freedom Tower" will likely recall painful memories of the 9/11 attacks.


ALISON BOWEN
alison.bowen@metro.us

YOUR COMMENTS

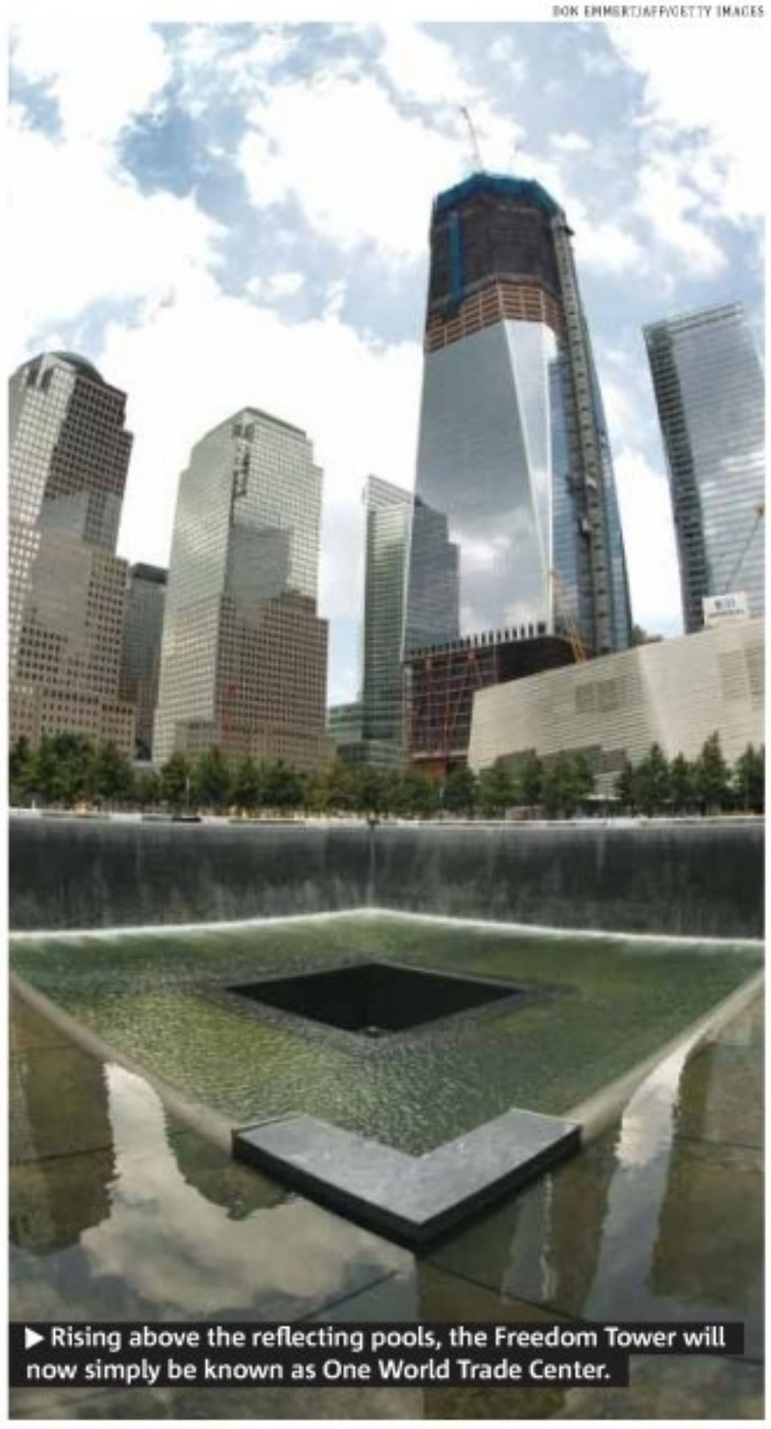
To post your comments, go to: **www.metro.us**

On our Facebook page, Facebook.com/MetroNewYork, we asked for your input. Readers said:

"Absolutely agree w Mayor Mike. The average person knows the meaning of the phrase. It is not exclusive to 9/11." ROBERT ALAN ESPINO

"It should just be called WTC, nothing more, nothing less." DYLAN ROONEY NEARY

"True, especially when the construction workers already started to build something new. I can't wait to see it finished. I think it would revive downtown really well." DANIELLE BOSLEY


DON EMMERT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES
▶ Rising above the reflecting pools, the Freedom Tower will now simply be known as One World Trade Center.

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SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

In the news

City official blasts cops for arrest

Jumaane Williams, the councilman arrested Monday at the West Indian Parade, said that police officers lied about what led to his arrest, denying a cop's claim that he was punched. Williams told reporters his arrest was an incident of racial profiling. METRO/AB

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PUTTING 9/11 INTO WORDS

WWW.METRO.US/HOME
REAL HOUSEWIFE ON PLANNING A PARTY

WWW.METRO.US/STYLE
GAME PLAN FOR FASHION'S NIGHT OUT

▶ Opening the station

Cortlandt Street reopens

LOWER MANHATTAN. The downtown Cortlandt Street R station reopened to the public yesterday afternoon, just days before the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11. The station sustained significant damage during the attacks, and was closed for a year before it reopened in 2002 until August 2005, when it was closed again for construction. The MTA plans to one day connect the Cortlandt Street stop to the Fulton Street Transit Center. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Port Authority dedicated $20 million dollars to the project. METRO/EAE

Rape on Fire Island?

FIRE ISLAND. A woman was sexually assaulted on a Fire Island beach on Sunday, according to police. Police say a 30-year-old Hispanic man, armed with a silver handgun, beat and sexually assaulted the woman on Cherry Grove beach at the popular resort area just before 6 a.m. Sunday. Police are actively seeking the man, described as just over 5 feet tall with short black hair and a thin mustache. Call the Suffolk County police at 631-854-8552 with any tips. METRO/EAE

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Opinion

JOHN LEGUIZAMO

ACTOR, COMEDIAN, NEW YORKER

NEW YORK: WORTH ALL THE RISKS

John Leguizamo was born in Colombia, raised in Jackson Heights, Queens, and rose to fame doing stand-up on the Manhattan comedy club circuit. He's as New York as they come, and today he weighs in as Metro's celebrity guest editor. Below, he recalls where he was on Sept. 11, 2001, and reflects on how our city has changed — for the better, and also for the worse.

It was like we lost our virginity on Sept. 11. Well, worse than that because losing your virginity is not really a terrible thing. But what I mean is, we felt like we were invincible before that. But this was being attacked inside our city. It felt like that was the beginning of the end of a great empire, somehow.

On that morning, when the planes hit, I was in Michigan, believe it or not, on a farm with my two kids. You couldn't talk, you couldn't move, you were like a zombie, watching the TV. What got me was when you saw the bodies come down. That's when I lost it.

And it was interesting because my family and I were more like zombies than anybody else. Everyone else in Michigan, they were still able to function. But we couldn't talk, we couldn't process it. I mean, I'm a New Yorker. I could see the World Trade Center from my backyard when I barbecued.

In the weeks after 9/11, everything reeked — you know, that weird smell that was coming from downtown and permeated everything. All my friends got rashes, big red blotches under their eyes.

My show "Sexaholix" opened less than a month later, the first week of October 2001. I wanted to delay the opening back a year. I was like, "Why the hell are we doing this?" I felt humorless; I didn't feel like there was anything to be funny about. And then people started coming to the show and wanting to laugh, laughing extra hard, maybe more than they normally would have. They just needed a release, and they needed to feel positive. I could see that they wanted that so desperately.

PHOTOS: EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN/METRO

▶ John Leguizamo weighs in during an editorial meeting yesterday.

Quoted

"I'm a New Yorker. I could see the World Trade Center from my backyard when I barbecued."

But even now, 10 years later, New Yorkers are still scared. The subways during rush hour and Times Square are the two places I'm terrified of being as a New Yorker. Still, I think I'd rather die then leave this city.

New York is where everything's happening — all the cultural, all the intellectual ideas cross-pollinate here. It's what Egypt was back in the day, the cradle of civilization. And to leave that? I'd rather risk it.

– John Leguizamo's solo show, "Ghetto Klown," will open in L.A. this fall.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 300-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

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Mixed on 9/11 jokes: How soon is too soon?

- Will it ever be OK to laugh about 9/11?
- New York comics conflicted
- Some say it's crossing a line, others cherish the freedom of speech

FRANK MICELOTTA/IMAGEDIRECT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Gilbert Gottfried delivered his now-infamous 9/11 joke on Sept. 29, 2001. "The towers were still smoldering, but there was a ray of hope in the laughter," fellow comedian Jeffrey Ross remembered. "The terrorists hadn't won."

When is it OK to joke about 9/11, if ever? New York's professional comics are mixed.

"There are now 900 and 11 jokes about 9/11," joked Jeffrey Ross, the roastmaster general for Comedy Central, and a Greenwich Village resident.

But in the weeks after 9/11, no one was laughing.

"Everything came to a halt," remembers Caroline Hirsch, owner of eponymous comedy club "Caroline's," which closed for weeks after the attacks.

One venue, however, was open by Sept. 13, 2001 — the Upright Citizens Brigade improv troupe.

"Everyone was traumatized," said Astoria resident John Frusciante, 33, who performs at the theater. But, "It wound up being very cathartic," he said.

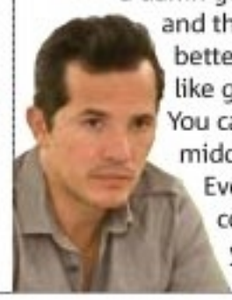
But for some comedians, 9/11 is strictly off limits.

"I think it's cheap," said Nate Dern, 26, who also performs at the Upright Citizens Brigade. "I don't approve of it as a person or a comedian."

"Making a joke about 9/11 might be the first patriotic thing I've ever done," countered Ross. "I've had these rights, like freedom of speech, that I took for granted."

EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN
emily.epstein@metro.us

Leguizamo says:



"Sept. 11 jokes ... that's a tough one! You better have a damn good joke and that s— better come off like gangbusters. You can't have no middling joke. Eventually, of course, you're going to be able to joke about it. I think there's some healing in saying these horrible things as long as they're really funny. What is it — tragedy plus time equals comedy? But how much is enough time? And it's tougher to do it around the 10-year anniversary. This week makes you a little sensitive on the subject."

Off limits?

What do you think? Is there anything funny about the following jokes?

- "I was in New York for September 11 — or, as I like to call it — the week football stopped."
  David Cross, creator of "Mr. Show"
- "I have mixed feelings about the war: I support the war, but I'm against the troops."
  Jeffrey Ross, roastmaster general for Comedy Central
- "I have a flight to California. I can't get a direct flight — they said they have to stop at the Empire State Building first."
  Gilbert Gottfried, at a roast of Hugh Hefner on Sept. 29, 2001, a joke he delivered to boos and hisses from the audience

No longer the one? Obama's dark days

President faces electoral setback as new polls reveal lowest numbers to date ◆ Republicans plan to continue all-out opposition ◆ Jobs still key

President Barack Obama's job-approval ratings plunged to a new low ahead of his major economic speech tomorrow, with widespread discontent among Americans over his handling of the economy and jobs, according to a spate of polls released yesterday.

An NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll of 1,000 U.S. adults showed Obama's overall job approval rating at a low of 44 percent, down 3 percentage points since July, while his handling of the economy stands at 37 percent.

A Democratic pollster who helped conduct the survey said the poor results, which contain a 3.1 percentage-point margin of error, suggest Obama is no longer favored to win re-election in 2012.

An ABC News/Washington Post poll of U.S. adults showed that six in 10 Americans rate the president's job on the economy and jobs negatively, while one in three say they are now worse off financially since Obama entered the White House. It has a 3.5 percentage point margin of error.

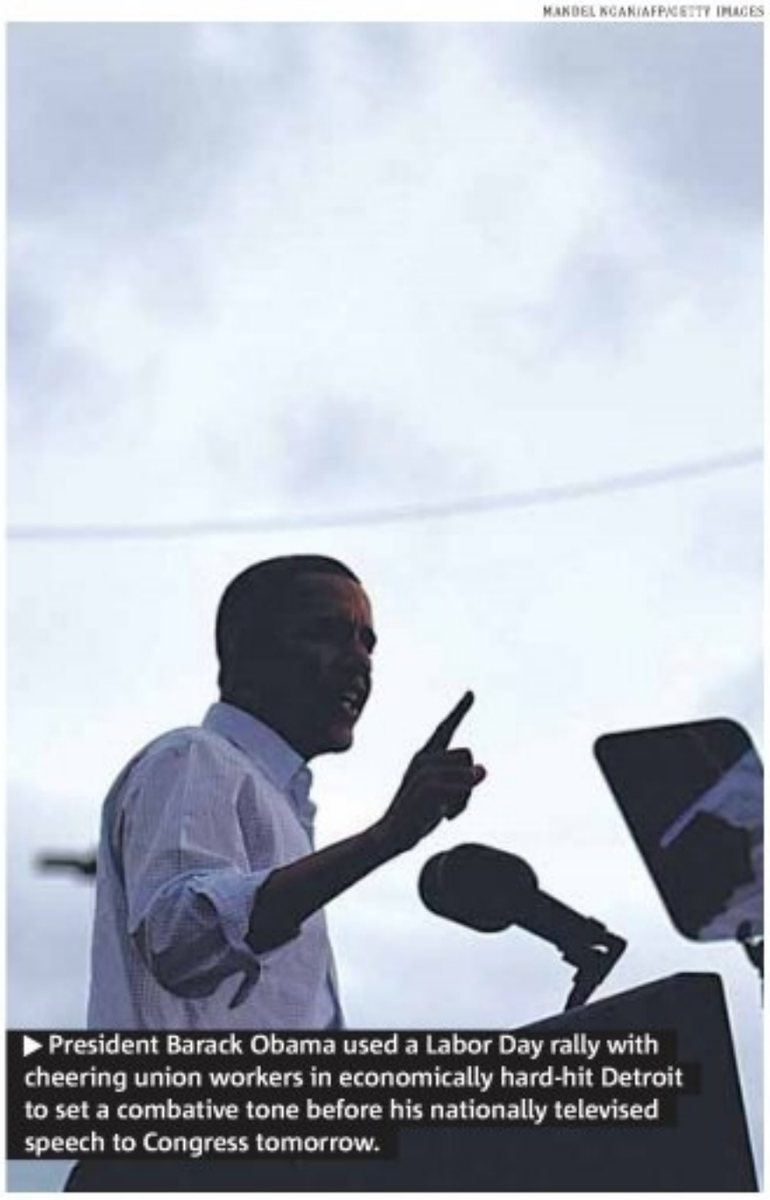
A third poll of 1,000 likely voters by Washington-based Politico and George Washington University found that 72 percent of voters believe the country is either strongly or somewhat headed in the wrong direction, a jump of 12 percent since last May. REUTERS

GOP says no to jobs initiative

WASHINGTON. Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell signaled yesterday that Obama's new job-creation initiative will face tough Republican opposition.

In a speech delivered on the Senate floor as Congress was returning from a monthlong break, McConnell said he was certain that the Democratic president's new plan will "represent more of the same failed approach that's only made things worse over the past few years and resulted in fewer jobs than when he started." REUTERS

MANDEL NGAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



▶ President Barack Obama used a Labor Day rally with cheering union workers in economically hard-hit Detroit to set a combative tone before his nationally televised speech to Congress tomorrow.

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US smokes less, but pace slows

Number of smokers in US decreases Heavy usage also shrinking However, rate of decline slowing down

Fewer American adults are smoking cigarettes, and those who still smoke have cut back on the number of cigarettes they smoke. But the rate of decline has begun to slow, health experts said on Tuesday.

Smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in the United States, killing an estimated 443,000 Americans each year.

The report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows 19.3 percent of American adults over age 18 — roughly 45 million people — smoked in 2010, down from 20.9 percent in 2005.

"That represents 3 million fewer smokers in 2010 than there would have been five years ago," CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden told reporters in a telephone conference.

According to the CDC, 21.8 percent of smokers had fewer than 10 cigarettes a day in 2010, compared with 16.4 percent in 2005.

Only 8.3 percent of smokers were considered heavy smokers in 2010 — smoking more than 30 cigarettes a day — compared with 12.7 percent in 2005.

"People who smoke are smoking less, but we can do much better," Frieden said.

Smoking rates in the United States have fallen sharply following the first warnings in the mid-1960s that cigarette smoking could cause lung and other cancers and a host of other health problems, such as heart disease and stroke.

And while smoking rates are still falling, CDC officials said, the pace of decline between 2005 and 2010 is slower than in the previous five-year period.

Between 2006 and 2007, there was no change in U.S. smoking rates at all. REUTERS

221K

More than 221,000 Americans will likely be diagnosed with lung cancer in 2011, reports the American Cancer Society.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Defaced Gaddafi portrait

Gaddafi is on the run, location unknown

Libya's Muammar Gaddafi is on the run, U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said yesterday, adding that he didn't know the ousted leader's location.

"I wish I knew," Panetta said when asked about Gaddafi's whereabouts. "I don't have any information as to exactly where he's located. ... The best information we have is that he's on the run."

The Pentagon has said previously it had no reason to believe Gaddafi had left Libya. Asked whether that assessment had changed, Panetta said only: "I don't have any information as to his location." REUTERS

Wildfires sweep across Texas

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Texans watch wildfires.

Wildfires sweeping across drought-stricken Texas have destroyed more than 1,000 homes in the last several days as they move into more populated areas, Gov. Rick Perry said yesterday.

Perry surveyed damage in west Austin, where dozens of homes have been destroyed and hundreds evacuated.

Speaking after his visit, the Texas governor, who left the presidential campaign trail to deal with the fires, said he hopes cooler temperatures and slowing winds yesterday would help firefighters contain more than 50 fires across the state.

"The magnitude of these losses are pretty stunning," Perry said at a news conference in the Steiner Ranch subdivision in west Austin. "We've got a lot of Texans living in shelters now." REUTERS

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U.S. Two Cent - 1864 Small Motto	Up To	$1,000
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- ✓ **JEWELRY:**
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- ☐ Wristwatches
- ☐ Pocketwatches
- ☐ Antique Jewelry
- ☐ Cameos
- ☐ Platinum Jewelry
- ☐ Charm Bracelets
- ☐ Gold Rings
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- ☐ Enamel Items on Gold & Silver
- ☐ Dental Gold
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- ☐ Silver Dollars (Pre-1935)
- ☐ Silver Coins (Pre-1964)
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- ☐ Gold Bullion Coins
- ☐ Proof Sets
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- ☐ Paper Money (1860-1934)
- ☐ Coin Collections
- ☐ Carson City Silver Dollars
- ☐ Indianhead Pennies
- ☐ Investment Coins
- ☐ Certified Coins
- ✓ **STERLING SILVER:**
- ☐ Silver Jewelry
- ☐ Flatware Sets
- ☐ Single Flatware Items
- ☐ Tea Sets
- ☐ Antique Items (all kinds)

PLEASE NOTE: We can arrange one of our representatives to visit your home if you have a large jewelry and coin collections.

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All Time Periods, Kinds & Types

We will pay up to for the following:

Centerpieces	Up To	$3,500
Claret Jugs	Up To	$750
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Full Flatware Set	Up To	$8,500
Punch Bowls & Sets	Up To	$5,000
Single Flatware Items	Up To	$750
Tea Sets	Up To	$10,500
Trophies	Up To	$1,500

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*$2.50	1796 to 1834	*$5.00	1834 to 1838	*$10.00	1839 to 1932
*$2.50	1840 to 1929	*$5.00	1839 to 1908	*$20.00	1850 to 1933
*$3.00	1854 to 1889	*$5.00	1908 to 1929		

Your Coins Could be Worth Up To Hundreds — Even Thousands!

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$1.00	1849C	Up To	$10,500
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$2.50	1841 Quarter Eagle Liberty Head	Up To	$5,000
$3.00	1854D	Up To	$10,500
$5.00	1795 Small Eagle	Up To	$52,000
$5.00	1838D	Up To	$10,500
$5.00	1842C Small Date, 1861D, 1864S	Up To	$6,500
$5.00	1909O, 1929	Up To	$6,500
$10.00	1793 13 Leaves Below Eagle, 1796 9 Leaves Below Eagle	Up To	$20,500
$10.00	1859O, 1863S, 1875	Up To	$8,000
$20.00	1856O, 1854O, 1860O, 1861S, 1870CC, 1886, 1891	Up To	$10,500

WRIST & POCKET WATCHES

All Kinds, Time Periods & Types

Rare Watches Worth a Fortune in Cash! Pay up to for the following:

A. Lange	$25,500	Gallet	$1,250	Tiffany & Co.	$15,000
Audermars piguet	$32,500	Grubelin	$42,500	Ulyssee Nardin	$10,000
Ball	$4,000	Hamilton	$500	Vacheron & Constantin	$26,000
Breitling	$15,000	Illinois	$1,500	Chronograph Watches	$16,500
Cartier	$12,500	Jules Jurgenson	$16,000	Ladies Watches	$11,000
Corum	$3,000	LeCourtte	$6,000	Musical Watches	$37,500
Ditishiem	$14,000	Longines	$13,000	Pocket Watches	$52,500
Dudley	$11,500	Movado	$2,500	Regular Watches	$11,000
E. Howard & Co.	$12,000	Omega	$2,500	Repeating Watches	$85,000
Elgin	$750	Rolex	$16,000	Stop Watches	$11,000
Frodsham	$12,000	Seth Thomas	$1,500	World Time Watches	$37,500

Breitling Up To $15,000 | Rolex - All Kinds Up To $16,000 | Pocketwatches Up To $52,500 | Cartier Up To $12,500 | Longines Up To $13,000

PLEASE NOTE: We also purchase watches that are NOT in working order.

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Why You Should Sell Now!

The Economy & Market Value

The recent downturn of our economy during the last three years has caused gold and other precious metal prices to soar to the highest levels of all time. This is the reason this is best time to sell before prices drop.

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Our showrooms are safe and private. Our staff is courteous and professional and we strive as a company to make your selling experience a pleasant one.

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We are licensed, bonded and insured in all cities and towns in which we conduct business.

Help the Environment

Using recycled precious metals for jewelry is an important way for jewelers to source precious metals more responsibly. Precious metals that have already been used in some way, including "vintage," "renewed," or "reclaimed" metals from jewelry and electronics, are not directly implicated in the destructive impacts of mining. They do not share responsibility for the impacts of mining in the same way that newly mined gold does.

Satisfied Customer Testimonials

Really like it here! Everyone is very kind, great atmosphere. I have been back 4 times!
— *C. Pace*

I have been here 2 times and both times the people that work here were very friendly. I would definitely recommend this to my friends!
— *J. Grace*

It was really fast!
— *A. Davis*

I heard about this store from the radio and as soon as I got the chance I came to sell my unused jewelry. It was a great & friendly service and I will be back!
— *J. Simek*

My service was exceptional!
— *C. Sweeney*

Very informative & professional. A relaxed atmosphere & experience.
— *D. Rees*

The staff was helpful and friendly. I was able to take old jewelry and walk away with a handsome amount of money.
— *D. Smith*

I was offered a certain amount at one place and when I told RCFG the amount they beat the price by a good amount. People are very friendly and courteous.
— *J. Bloomquist*

Had fun selling my old jewelry that was broken. Received some extra cash for Springtime and our new puppy. I would recommend RCFG!
— *C. Lang*

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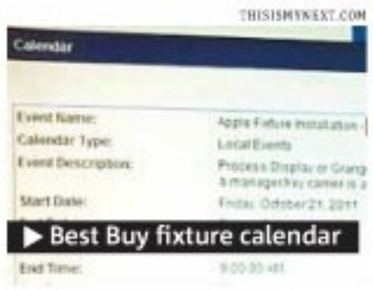


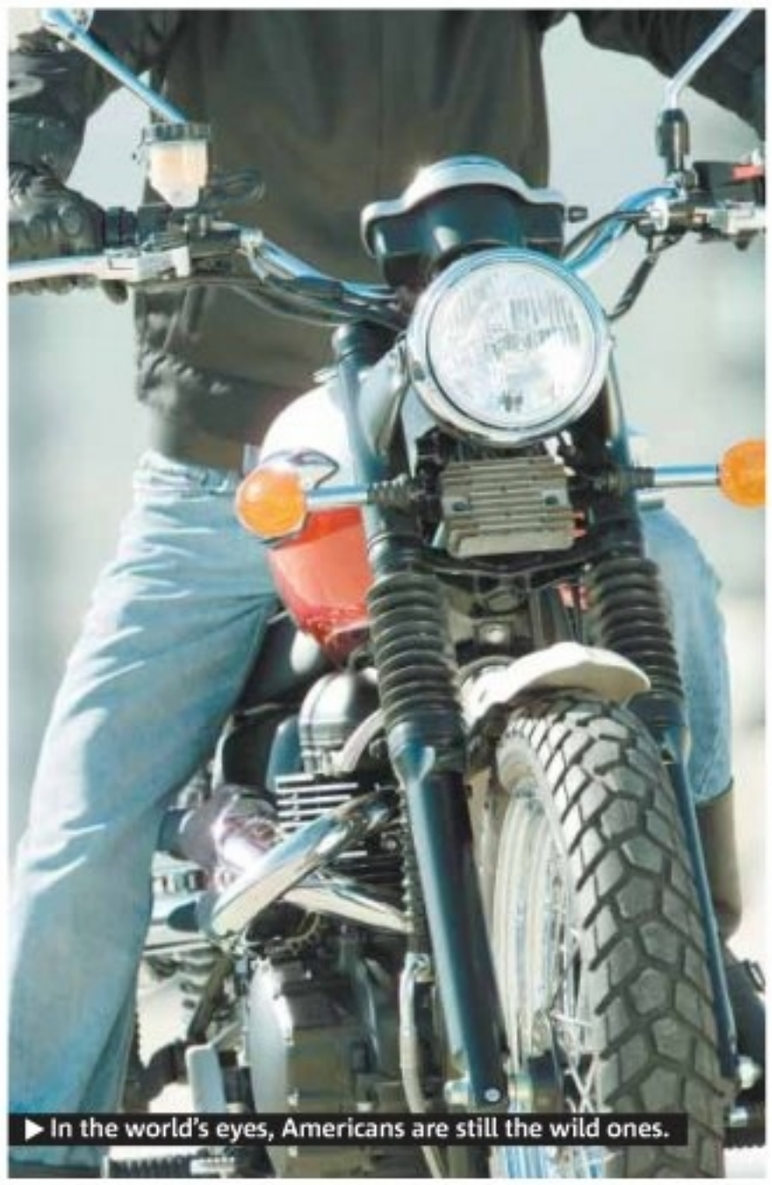
▶ Best Buy fixture calendar

iPhone 5 October drop, trick or treat?

The iPhone 5 will be launched on Oct. 21, according to a blog post published yesterday.

The post on Thisismynext.com featured what appears to be an Apple installation fixture plan scheduled for that morning at the Best Buy chain of stores. It does not, however, include any details about which Apple product will be featured.

The site said the arrangements for Best Buy were very similar to those made by Apple when it launched the iPhone 4. METRO


▶ In the world's eyes, Americans are still the wild ones.

Americans still world's 'coolest'

Despite bad economy and involvement in multiple wars, US hasn't lost its cool, cites international poll

They may be witnessing their global superpower influence decline in the face of challenges from other emerging players on the world stage, but Americans have been voted the world's "coolest nationality" in an international poll.

Social networking site Badoo.com asked 30,000 people across 15 countries to name the coolest nationality and also found that the Spanish were considered the coolest Europeans, Brazilians the coolest Latin Americans and Belgians the globe's least cool nationality.

"We hear a lot in the media about anti-Americanism," says Lloyd Price, Badoo's director of marketing. "But we sometimes forget how many people across the world consider Americans seriously cool."

The coolest 10

1. Americans
2. Brazilians
3. Spanish
4. Italians
5. French
6. British
7. Dutch
8. Mexicans
9. Argentinians
10. Russians

Of course, not all Americans are cool, far from it. Some like Snoop Dogg, Lady Gaga, Samuel L. Jackson, Johnny Depp and Quentin Tarantino are way cooler than others.

Americans, however, are the dudes who invented cool and who still embody it in many fields from music to movies and TV to technology.

"America," says Price, "boasts the world's coolest leader, Obama; the coolest rappers, Jay-Z and Snoop Dogg; and the coolest man in technology, Steve Jobs of Apple, the man who even made geeks cool." REUTERS

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HEROES AND VILLAINS

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

- In the movies, the American response to 9/11 would be clear-cut: Determined, but with the best possible motives
- There was, indeed, a lot of heroism. Inevitably, though, some Americans let their country down

THE HEROES

Some of the biggest heroes of Sept. 11, 2001, are average Americans who jumped into the fray without hesitation.

"Like everybody else that morning, I saw the attack on the television," said politician-come-EMT and volunteer firefighter Gene Stilp of Middle Paxton, Pa. "I used to live in New York, so I felt moved to go there. I spent that first weekend helping out and looking for remains."

Many service members continue to quietly risk their lives on a daily basis in the name of protecting the country, even 10 years later.

"The number one reason I joined military is they attacked us on our home soil in two separate locations. We were short on soldiers at the time and we were about to go into war, so it was my duty to contribute," said U.S. Army Capt. Zak Waity, 32, who enlisted in May of 2002 and has since completed two tours in Iraq.

He said that many of his fellow soldiers joined due to the attacks, with even retired veterans returning to the fray to contribute their service and knowledge.

"9/11 still has effects because we're still involved in that conflict. That day is what led to the war," Waity said. "It's present every day for people in the military."

"The 10th anniversary brings to light why we are in Iraq and Afghanistan. It acts as a reminder to why you wear a uniform every day," he continued. "It's a reminder to civilians why military personnel do what they do, and police and firefighters as well."

Navy SEAL Team 6

A team of 40 CIA-led Navy SEALs, 24 on the ground, successfully completed an operation to kill Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan, in the early morning of May 2, 2011. They were part of the Naval Special Warfare Development Group, previously called "Team Six."

▶ A makeshift memorial stands March 10, 2002, at a site overlooking the field where United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Shanksville, Pa., on Sept. 11, 2001.
GETTY IMAGES

Todd Beamer
and other passengers of Flight 93

Beamer realized terrorists intended to use Flight 93 as a weapon through covert cell phone calls.

▶ Todd Beamer

He told the phone operator that some of the plane's passengers were planning to "jump on" the hijackers and fly the plane into the ground to avoid further damage.

Beamer's last audible words were, "Are you guys ready? Let's roll."

THE VILLAINS

Perhaps nothing is more villainous than taking advantage of the pro-American goodwill and sense of unity engendered by the attacks' aftermath.

9/11 survivor charities have been under intense scrutiny in recent weeks due to an Associated Press report alleging that many misappropriated funds, failed to publicly disclose spending and never followed through on their stated missions.

Arizona Attorney General Tom Horne is reportedly investigating the American QUILT Memorial, a project founded by nonprofit Stage 1 that raised more than $700,000 to create a huge quilt with a square dedicated to each life lost on Sept. 11.

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According to the charity's website, the organization ceased all fundraising efforts last September without achieving its goal. Much of the donated money went to an official of the charity, financing his salary, family loans, a new home and travel promoting the nonexistent quilt, the AP report said.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman is also investigating several charities in New York for similar offenses, reports said.

Anwar al-Awlaki, 40

- Born in Las Cruces, New Mexico.
- Senior talent recruiter, planner and trainer for al-Qaeda.
- Islamic lecturer and spiritual leader whose sermons were attended by three 9/11 hijackers and Fort Hood shooter Nidal Malik Hasan. Times Square bomb plotter Faisal Shahzad also cited him as an inspiration.
- First U.S. citizen ever placed on CIA target list.
- Believed to be hiding in Yemen.

▶ Al-Awlaki

▶ Walker Lindh

John Walker Lindh, 30

- Born in Washington, D.C., and converted to Islam in 1997.
- Studied in Yemen and Pakistan.
- Traveled to Afghanistan to fight with Taliban forces against the American military.
- Captured as an enemy combatant during the the Battle of Qala-i-Jangi.
- Serving a 20-year prison sentence in connection with his participation in Afghanistan's Taliban army.

Unity, working together were buzzwords of Washington after the attacks That talk faded, and division now reigns Experts see bipartisanship as 'rally-around-the-flag phenomena'

Buddy-buddy goes bye-bye as bipartisanship fades

It was just hours after the World Trade Center towers fell, the Pentagon broke open and a plane bore a hole in a Pennsylvania field that congressmen and women, Republicans and Democrats, stood side by side on the Capitol steps singing "God Bless America."

None of them seemed to care what state they were from, how they voted on recent bills or which party they were affiliated with.

But that was Sept. 11, 2001.

The harmony sung from the nation's capitol didn't last long and eventually turned to passionate political rhetoric.

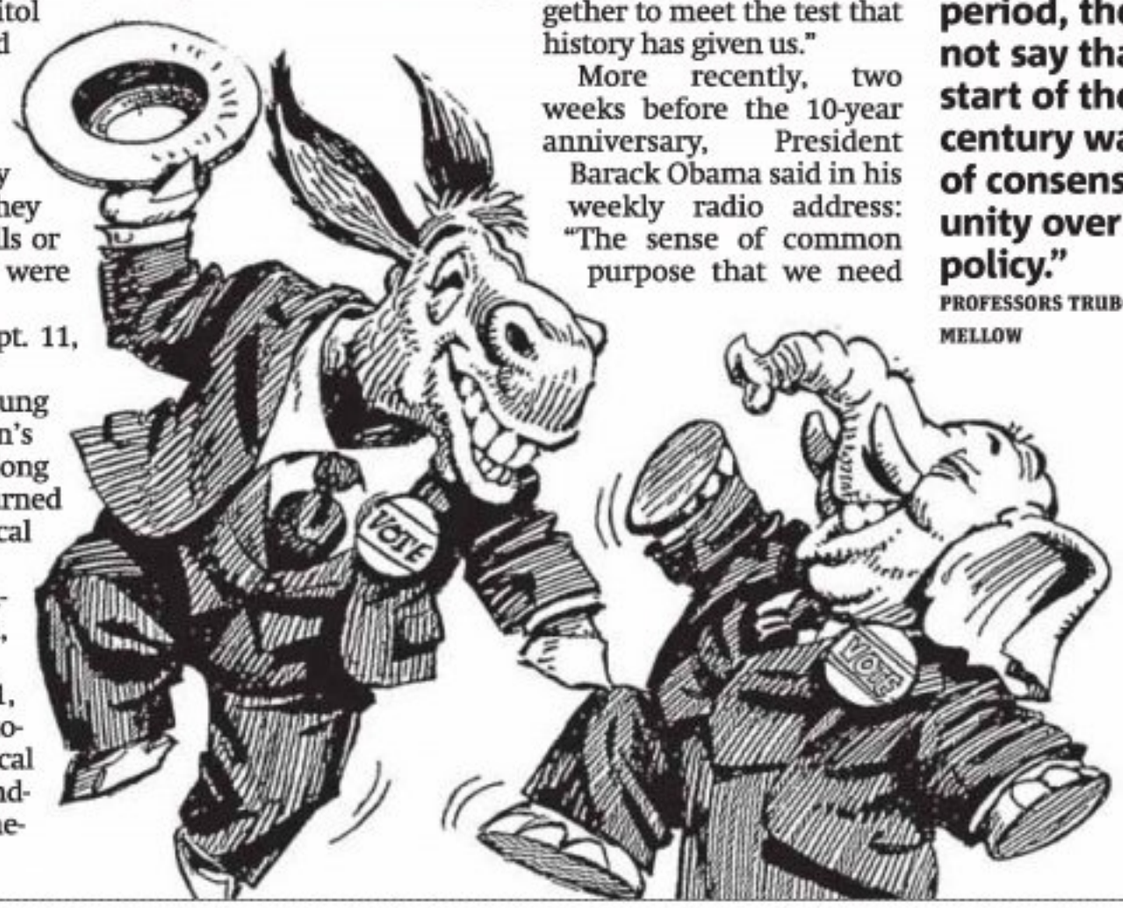
It's not an uncommon rhythm, experts said.

"After Sept. 11, you had a joining together. This is typical of the rally-around-the-flag phenomena," said Joseph S. Nye, former dean of the Harvard Kennedy School and author of "The Future of Power."

The calls for bipartisanship were loud and clear after Sept. 11. And each year, right around Labor Day and just before the anniversary, the calls and tone start to come back.

On the five-year anniversary of 9/11, President George W. Bush told the nation that it must "put aside our differences and work together to meet the test that history has given us."

More recently, two weeks before the 10-year anniversary, President Barack Obama said in his weekly radio address: "The sense of common purpose that we need in America doesn't have to be a fleeting moment. It can be a lasting virtue."



Quoted

"Whatever else future historians say about American politics in this period, they will not say that the start of the 21st century was a time of consensus and unity over foreign policy."

PROFESSORS TRUBOWITZ AND MELLOW

While the calls for unity continued each year around the time of the attacks, they haven't been as loud or abundant as they were 10 years ago, political science experts have found.

In an article for "International Politics," government and political science professors Peter Trubowitz and Nicole Mellow examined roll-call voting in Congress to analyze bipartisanship, particularly with foreign policy.

"Whatever else future historians say about American politics in this period, they will not say that the start of the 21st century was a time of consensus and unity over foreign policy," the professors wrote in their article titled "Foreign policy, bipartisanship and the paradox of post-September 11 America."

Trubowitz and Mellow said the extent of bipartisanship depends on factors that include politics.

"How resolutely lawmakers stay the bipartisan course depends on the state of the economy and the depth of regional rivalries. When voters are worried about their pocketbooks and the nation's politics is sharply divided along regional lines, bipartisanship over foreign policy suffers," the article said.

When bipartisanship loses out, it does have an impact on our standing abroad. Nye said, "Other countries are affected by moods in the United States and what they see as the messiness of the process."

However, Nye added that while partisan politics may be fracturing, not all is lost in terms of foreign standing.

"There is admiration that Americans do disagree and do have a lively democracy," he said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Sound bites

Bipartisanship fail:

- "I want to congratulate my Republican colleagues that they're not too old to learn. Because I was in Congress in 2001, '02, '03, '04, '05, '06 — when the Republicans controlled the House, the Senate [and] the White House, and they pushed things through. There was none of this concern that one-party rule was a bad thing. Now that they're not the party, they've decided that that's a bad idea, and it's always nice when people know new things." U.S. REP. BARNEY FRANK (D-MASS.) ON MEET THE PRESS IN 2009 ABOUT MILITARY SPENDING ISSUE

Fail:

"For months, Congress has delayed action on supplemental war funding because some in Congress want to make a political statement about the war."

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH IN 2007 CRITICIZING DEMOCRATS FOR LEAVING FOR THEIR THANKSGIVING BREAK WITHOUT APPROVING THE WAR FUNDS

- "I've been left at the altar now a couple of times." PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, BLAMING REPUBLICANS DURING FAILED DEBT CEILING TALKS EARLIER THIS YEAR

- "The job of speaker is not to expedite legislation that runs counter to the wishes of the majority of his majority." FORMER HOUSE SPEAKER DENNIS HASTERT (R-ILL.) IN 2003

Bipartisanship bull?

- "Senators and House members, Democrats and Republicans, will stand shoulder to shoulder to fight this evil that has perpetrated on this nation. We will stand together to make sure that those who have brought forth this evil deed will pay the price." FORMER HOUSE SPEAKER DENNIS HASTERT (R-ILL.) ON SEPT. 11, 2001

- "I refuse to accept that while we stand shoulder to shoulder on the war, we should stand toe to toe on the economy. We need to find a way to respect each other, trust each other and work together to solve the long-term challenges America faces." FORMER U.S. REP. DICK GEPHARDT (D-MO.) IN JANUARY 2002

- "I fully support President Bush's decision to strike al Qaeda's terrorist network. Now, more than ever, we must stand united as a nation and support our president and our military. It is important to remember that carefully targeted response is not an attack on a religion, nor a nation, but an attack on terrorism. In Congress, we will continue to work with the White House to do what's needed to bring justice to those who committed the heinous and evil attacks of 9/11." SEN. TOM HARKIN (D-IOWA) IN OCTOBER 2001

- "Let's show that the sense of common purpose that we need in America doesn't have to be a fleeting moment. It can be a lasting virtue — not just on one day, but every day." PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA ON AUG. 27, 2011

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Bull?

"Winning this war will require the determined efforts of a unified country. So we must put aside our differences and work together to meet the test that history has given us."

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH IN SEPTEMBER 2006

Highs and lows of ...

THE US WAR ON TERROR

From George W. Bush's first mention of WMDs to the triumphant killing of Osama bin Laden:

Sept. 11, 2001:

Terrorist attacks against the United States: Two planes crash into the twin towers and one hits the Pentagon, killing nearly 3,000 people.

Oct. 7, 2001:

The U.S. and the U.K. begin war in Afghanistan with Operation Enduring Freedom, launching ground forces in Kabul to oust the Taliban from power.

Jan. 29, 2002:

In his State of the Union address, President George W. Bush says that Iraq is part of the "axis of evil," and the nation is allied with terrorists and poses a serious threat to the U.S. Bush would later say Iraq was harboring weapons of mass destruction.

March 19, 2003:

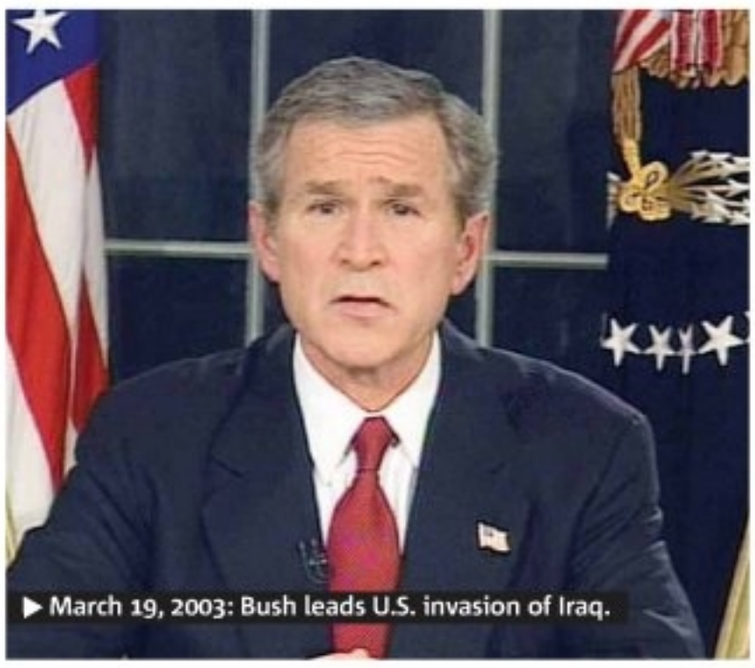
Bush leads U.S. invasion of Iraq. Some countries decry the invasion as unilateral and argue that the threat of weapons of mass destruction is unfounded and misrepresented.

April 9, 2003:

Baghdad falls under America's control, overthrowing Saddam Hussein's rule inside the capital. In a symbolic moment, U.S. troops topple a statue of Hussein.

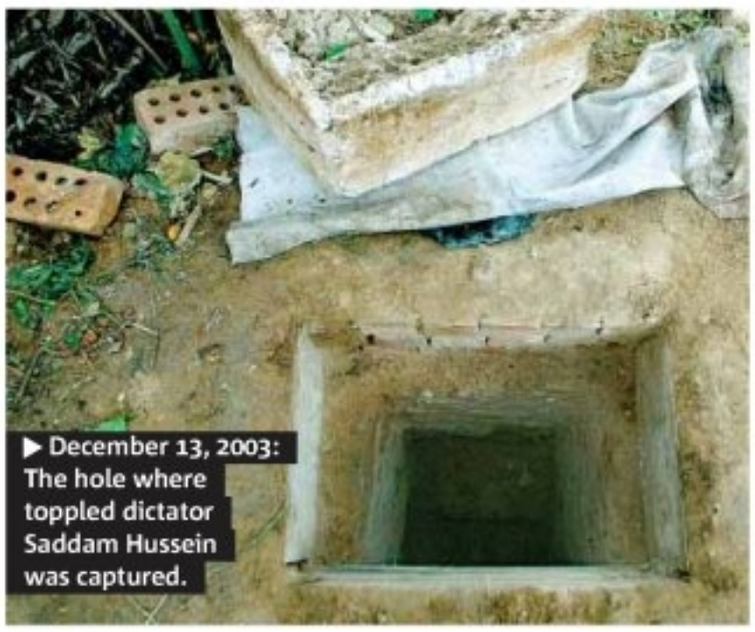
Dec. 13, 2003:

Saddam Hussein is found by U.S. military personnel and is sentenced to death by hanging.



▶ March 19, 2003: Bush leads U.S. invasion of Iraq.

▶ April 9, 2003: Baghdad falls under U.S. control.



▶ December 13, 2003: The hole where toppled dictator Saddam Hussein was captured.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Nov. 8, 2006: Donald Rumsfeld resigns after reports of Iraqi detainee abuse at Abu Ghraib prison (above).

▶ May 2, 2011: U.S. Marines watch as President Obama announces the killing of Osama bin Laden.

March 31, 2004:

Four mercenary soldiers, working with a company called Blackwater as private security guards, are brutally killed in Fallujah. Their bodies are beaten, dragged through the streets, and hung — the images of their deaths puts a spotlight on the controversial U.S. decision to use privately paid military contractors in Iraq.

Sept. 7, 2004:

By this point, 1,000 U.S. soldiers have lost their lives in Iraq.

April 2005:

The CIA's top weapons inspector announced that after an exhaustive search, they found no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

Dec. 15, 2005:

The first parliamentary elections in Iraq are being held since the capture of Hussein.

Nov. 8, 2006:

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld resigns from his position after reports break that Iraqi detainees were being abused at Abu Ghraib prison. Public outrage followed after photos were leaked that showed prisoners subject to torture and forced into humiliating positions.

June 7, 2007:

The al-Qaeda leader in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, is killed in an airstrike.

Feb. 27, 2009:

President Barack Obama vows that all the U.S. combat soldiers in Iraq, except for a transitional force of 35,000 to 50,000 troops, will be withdrawn by Aug. 31, 2010.

May 2, 2011:

9/11 mastermind Osama bin Laden is killed by Navy SEALs in a compound where he had been hiding in Abbottabad, Pakistan. U.S. citizens triumphant with glee.

June 22, 2011:

Obama announces that 10,000 U.S. troops would be withdrawn by the end of 2011 in Afghanistan and an additional 23,000 troops would leave the country by the summer of 2012.

Aug. 6, 2011:

Taliban fighters in Afghanistan shoot down a CH-47 Chinook, killing 30 Navy SEALs — some belonging to the same raid that killed bin Laden. The incident marks the deadliest single loss for American forces in the war. GRACE SERVERA

POST YOUR COMMENTS: WWW.METRO.US

REPUTATION REMAINS UP FOR GRABS

BY **GRAHAM WILSON**

CHAIR OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

In the second day of Metro's coverage of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, we examine how Americans see themselves now compared to a decade ago And we gauge opinion from overseas on how America — and Americans — are regarded there Graham Wilson looks at America's global reputation — and finds a more complex picture than expected

All of us like to be loved — perhaps Americans more than others.

We like to recall the many good things the United States has done for the world, including helping to defeat militarism and fascism in two world wars, defending Western Europe from totalitarian communism during the Cold War, and providing vital food aid when famine has threatened many parts of the globe. Some of our politicians even stridently misquote the sermon of the first governor of Massachusetts, John Winthrop, by proclaiming America is a "shining city upon the hill," a model to lesser countries. It therefore hurts to see mobs burning the stars and stripes in a far-off land while chanting "Death to the USA!"

One of the haunting questions asked after 9/11 was, "Why do they hate us?" Some issues involve attitudes in Muslim countries towards the U.S. over which we've got no control. Others are issues where we do have choices, such as our policies in the Middle East. And it can come as a surprise to Americans traveling in Western Europe when people you meet see America not as a shining city upon a hill but as a country wracked by gun violence, addicted to the death penalty (banned throughout the European Union) and, until recently, unique among advanced democracies in not guaranteeing all of citizens health coverage.

Many Europeans, Canadians and Australians even feel that their nations have been democratic as long as the USA and don't see ours as a political model. In fact, they often take a dim view of our gridlocked politics. This negative take on our system of government was reinforced by recent politically driven events in Washington, notably the deadlock over raising the debt ceiling.

Of course there are legitimately positive reflections, too. There are still French villagers who remember the U.S. dropping arms to the resistance or liberating their town. Older Europeans still recall how the Marshall Plan brought prosperity to the post-war continent. Millions of ordinary Britons travel here every year, reveling in Florida sunshine, the excitement of Manhattan, or the incredible scenery of the Southwest. And then there's all of those Hollywood movies and TV shows the world just loves (or loves to hate).

"The crucial thing to remember is that attitudes about the U.S. are a combination of perceptions and misperceptions on the one hand and of what's going on in the observer's home country on the other."

In short, reactions to America are neither all positive nor all negative. Our standing in the world remains up for grabs. So what's underlying the situation?

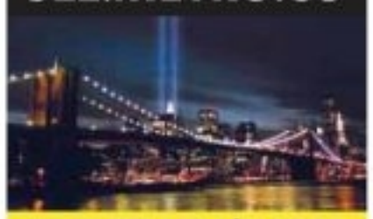
Let's start with some generally accurate observations of the United States. First, there are genuine differences in public policy that separate us from many countries. For example, we allow more freedom to gays than many people in Pakistan would accept. We differ from Europe on the death penalty, the generosity and comprehensiveness of our welfare state, and by and large on attitudes to guns (though some European countries, such as Switzerland, have widespread gun ownership). And we tax ourselves less than the French, the Germans, and, of course, the Scandinavians

But note some misperceptions related to the complex, indirect way we approach problems through the tax code or regulations rather than through upfront government programs. Health care is a good example. Many Europeans assume the uninsured here have been left to die in the streets. They don't realize that federal regulations required pretty much all hospitals with trauma centers to provide immediately necessary health care without regard to ability to pay. Similarly, it might appear that the U.S. is indifferent to climate issues. But our tax code has provided significant incentives to adopt cleaner, more efficient uses of energy. We often approach public policy problems in such an indirect way that even Americans don't fully appreciate what is being done. Foreigners can be excused for understanding even less.

Our political system also baffles foreigners — as well as many Americans. The sharing of powers (separation is a totally inaccurate description) between three branches of government can result in messy, out-in-the-open disputes as we just saw over the debt ceiling. In almost every policy area, the president, House and Senate can block each other, and the courts also often are waiting to pile on. This is, of course, what the writers of the Constitution intended, but it can easily result in deadlock and stalemate.

Indeed, our system requires compromise to work, something too many recently seem to have forgotten. It's easily overlooked that probably all forms of government — and certainly all democratic systems — also must make compromises and can struggle to reach agreements with wide enough support. But in parliamentary systems, for instance, disagreements and bargaining often are carried on more genteelly inside the cabinet, at meetings of the governing party, or in bargaining between coalition partners.

911.METRO.US



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ROBERT NICKELSBERG/GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"One of the haunting questions after 9/11 was: 'Why do they hate us?'"

"Anti-Americanism in the Middle East is linked to frustration and even shame over the backwardness of that region."

"Most foreigners know that if the world is to have a superpower, the USA is the best one around."

In this country, agreement will come after much blustering and posturing in the form of an agreement that can pass the House, the Senate and be signed by the president. The process looks much messier because it is more public, but the conflict around the cabinet table of a parliamentary system can be just as intense.

But remember that attitudes towards the USA reflect what's going on in the observer's home country. Sometimes these local developments make foreigners more sympathetic. For instance, the British used to be somewhat critical of the inculcation of values and traditions applied in the process of gaining citizenship in the U.S. More recently, as they have struggled to absorb a large immigrant population themselves, they've consciously copied many American procedures.

Some part of anti-Americanism in the Middle East is linked to frustration and even shame over the backwardness of a region that a thousand years ago was at the forefront of civilization. Some European criticism of the U.S. is linked to the attempts of what was once the world's dominant region trying to carve out a new purpose and an identity now that power has shifted. Both European claims of moral superiority by virtue of having better welfare states and opposition to American unilateralism in foreign policy link to this need to find a purpose and a role. Europe may no longer rule the world but its nations can claim to be kinder, gentler and more cooperative.

At the end of the day, the fact is that most people in Europe and many people around the world do actually like the USA. Recent polls by the Pew Research Center showed that, in 23 countries surveyed, on average 60 percent of people had a positive attitude toward the United States. Our favorability ratings took a hit during the Bush presidency but have recovered significantly since. Perhaps surprisingly to many Americans, France now leads in Western Europe with 75 percent of those polled favorable to the USA, compared to 62 percent in Germany and 61 percent in Britain. In former communist-controlled countries such as Lithuania, pro-Americanism is high, with 75 percent favorable. In Japan, the U.S. is even more popular with an 85 percent favorability rating. It is by and large in Islamic countries where the our rating tanks — 20 percent in Egypt, 13 percent in Jordan and 12 percent in Pakistan.

For all of recent history, the strongest power in the world — first the UK, now the USA — has been a country characterized by high degrees of freedom, political debate and the capacity for self criticism. This did not save either nation from mistaken foreign adventures and misconduct. But it did make it more likely that over time those mistakes would be acknowledged and corrected. This is not likely to happen in China. Likewise, there have always been substantial anti-war movements in the United States — regarding Vietnam, Iraq and even World War II. No such movement can develop in China critical of its Tibet policy.

So, deep down, most foreigners know that if the world is to have a superpower, the USA is the best one around.

BORIS CACABIAFFIGETTY IMAGES

▶ An Afghan girl greets a patrol of U.S. troops in the southern Afghan province of Kandahar.

Immediately after 9/11, the Middle East saw an outpouring of sympathy toward America Simon Mars says that in the 10 years since, American administrations have done all they can to throw away that goodwill And yet, as the Arab Spring uprisings have shown, there remains an appetite for American-style freedoms

Cynicism remains on the Arab street

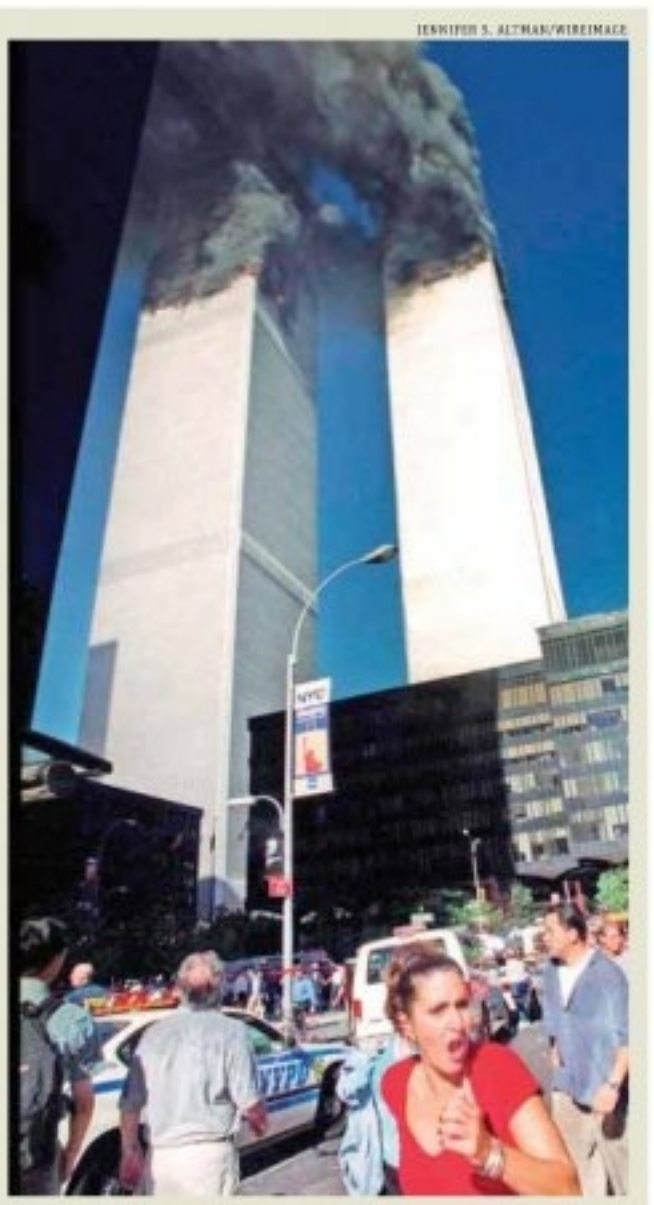
Most people can remember where they were when the planes hit the twin towers. I was in my apartment in Dubai where I'd been living for over a year, working as a regional documentary producer for a start-up TV channel.

The phone rang, calling me into work. I arrived in time to see the towers fall. Those around me looked at their TV screens with a mixture of awe and fear, not really believing what they were seeing. My reaction was more personal: I had lived in New York and knew people who worked in the WTC complex — if not in the towers themselves.

From the beginning, everyone in the newsroom assumed the attack had come from our part of the world, from people we had half-jokingly mused about going to Afghanistan to interview, from fanatics and fools who lived in caves. These were people who could kill — the bombings in Africa and the attack on the USS Cole had proven that — but not people who could change the world.

I knew though that this is exactly what had just happened. I knew America had to respond and that its response would be both violent and overwhelming.

President Bush's inauguration, just eight months before, had marked the arrival of a group of people who came to be known as neoconservatives, people who believed in the use of force, people such as Michael Ledeen who had once said, even before the attacks: "Every 10 years or so, the U.S. needs to pick up some crappy little country and throw it against the wall, just to show we mean business."


JENNIFER S. ALTMAN/WIREIMAGE

"The phone rang, calling me into work. I arrived in time to see the towers fall. Around me, people looked at their TV screens with a mixture of awe and fear, not really believing what they were seeing. My reaction was more personal: I had lived in New York and knew people who worked in the WTC complex — if not in the towers themselves."

MARS, ON WHERE HE WAS WHEN HE HEARD OF THE 9/11 ATTACKS

One such country that many of the neoconservatives believed the U.S. had unfinished business with was obviously Iraq, and history shows one of Donald Rumsfeld's first actions following 9/11 was to ask for plans to be drawn up for a possible attack on Iraq — even though there was no evidence Saddam Hussein had anything to do with 9/11.

The attacks on the U.S. created an unprecedented outpouring of sympathy across the Arab world with Libya, Syria and Iran sending its condolences. That emotion continued, even during the invasion of Afghanistan but as it became increasingly obvious that the next target was Iraq that sympathy began to dwindle and the mood began to change.

As the invasion got closer, some Arabs I met began to make comments that it was a good thing the American people felt some of the pain their country had inflicted on millions of innocent people in other lands — such as during Vietnam or the first Iraq war. Surely, they said, if the people remembered their own pain on 9/11 they would try to prevent their government from attacking Iraq.

My hope was that the U.S. government would see that any attack on Iraq would be playing straight into bin Laden's hands. From the start, his plan was to draw America into a violent response, to force people around the world to choose sides, to create a clash of religions and civilizations and to stir up a fundamentalism, on both sides, that would set fire to the world. Surely the U.S. would not give him what he most wanted?

As the war drew close, the region became more inflamed in protest and the antagonism toward America grew.

They heard America's explanation of why it had to attack Iraq — and they didn't believe a word of it. Memories fade, people forget; so who can remember now, clearly, the prelude to the war? The propaganda and the lies? The yellow cake and the weapons of mass destruction? The denial that it had anything to do with regime change?

People in the Middle East tend to be cynical; it goes with the territory, living as they do in the space between their leaders' rhetoric and the reality of their lives.

They know their leaders lie, so instead they turn to conspiracies for the truth: There had to be, people would say to me, another reason the U.S. wanted to attack Iraq. Was the hidden hand of Israel at work? After all, who else stood to gain from an American attack on Israel's enemies?

Some conspiracies were easy to dismiss. Rumors that Jewish people had been told not to go into work on 9/11 was demonstrably a lie, but I had no answer as to how Mohammad Atta's passport had been found at Ground Zero or who had made the ostensibly fake video of bin Laden sitting around discussing the attacks over dinner.

And so the Iraq war started: an easy victory followed by a disastrous occupation. Even now, it's difficult to underestimate how much harm this did to America's reputation.

In the Middle East, American democracy came to represent destruction, torture chambers and squalid deals with repressive dictators as long as they collaborated with the U.S.'s strategic goals.

People could not understand why, if the U.S. insisted it was fighting for freedom, its principal Arab ally, Saudi Arabia, was a feudal monarchy which refused to even let its women drive cars. And if Israel was not a motivating force behind the attack, people would say, then was it all just for oil? Was it as simple as that?

Five years later, following the inauguration of President Obama, the region seemed prepared to give the U.S. a second chance. I was in Cairo a month after Obama had delivered his speech calling for "a new

AHMAD AL-RUBAYE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Iraqi men in Baghdad watch a live broadcast on satellite television of a speech delivered in Cairo by President Barack Obama on June 4, 2009. President Barack Obama today vowed to forge a "new beginning" for Islam and America in a landmark speech to global Muslims, evoking a vision of peace after smoldering years of "suspicion and discord."

BY
SIMON MARS

TV PRODUCER AND JOURNALIST WHO LIVES IN CAIRO, EGYPT, AND DUBAI, UAE

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A weakened Wall Street weighs heavy on the views of outsiders.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Iraqis from the Sadr Movement hold up a banner against U.S. occupation as tens of thousands of Iraqi followers of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr protested in the streets of Baghdad on October 18, 2008, against the U.S. occupation of Iraq.

beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world." People told me how pleased they were at Obama's tone: pleased that he had praised Islam and promised the U.S. would treat the Arab people with respect and that he had described the plight of the Palestinians as "intolerable" and called for the creation of a Palestinian state.

What they did not hear, though, was any condemnation of the government of the country where the speech was given: Egypt, which had then spent 30 years under the corrupt and authoritarian regime of Hosni Mubarak. So, as much as they praised the speech they worried, was it simply more rhetoric — or would they really see a change in policy?

They didn't. Despite Obama's promise Guantanamo Bay remains open. The troops are still in Iraq and few believe they will be leaving anytime soon — even after this December's deadline. And they saw Israel attack Gaza with impunity while continuing to build settlements on Palestinian land.

Power is one thing people in the Middle East understand, and they can sense when it is ebbing away. Ten years after 9/11, people in the Middle East see a weakened America.

Bin Laden may be dead, but his desire to do to the United States what the mujahideen did to the Russians in Afghanistan is still on track. One reason the Soviet Union collapsed was that it could no longer afford its empire. People in the Middle East now look at the US and wonder if they are witnessing history repeat itself.

They see a country that will ultimately have spent around $4 trillion on its War on Terror — a country that has unimaginable levels of debt and has been humiliated by China's recent comment that it has "every right now to demand the United States address its structural debt problems and ensure the safety of China's dollar assets." They saw Hurricane Katrina and hear about a country where 1 percent of the people now own 40 percent of the wealth. They see, too, a recent poll that shows 78 percent of the public are dissatisfied with the country's political system. And, 10 years on, they see an Afghanistan where the Taliban are waiting for the U.S. to leave before they again take over. In Iraq, they see a country where nothing happens without its politicians first checking how it plays in Tehran.

So what role do people in the Middle East want the United States play in the region during the second decade after 9/11? One thing they certainly do not want is more military intervention.

The events of the Arab Spring showed the Arab people that they possessed an unknown power: the power to control their own destiny. It revealed, too, the utter irrelevance of al-Qaeda and the extremists; they had nothing to do with the uprising and are disliked by most people in the region.

The American public needs to know that people in the Middle East actually like America. They admire its freedoms, its culture and its opportunities. But most of all, they admire its liberty.

Now, nine months after it began, the Arab Spring is faltering with authoritarian governments beginning to regain control. The Arab people are asking for help. They want the United States to use its power and influence to help them replicate the great promise of the American revolution — to help them create their own governments of "we the people." America should not let them down.

Opinion

BRAYDEN SIMMS
METRO COLUMNIST

WHERE'S OUR SENSE OF COMMUNITY?

National politics have always been rancorous as a rule — especially in the United States, where the two-party system imposes a definite "us vs. them" dichotomy.

Still, it's hard to ignore the radicalization of our sociopolitical discourse in the years following the 9/11 attacks, as economic mismanagement and an erosion of freedoms have led our nation to increasingly resemble the oppressive Middle Eastern societies from which our radical enemies crawled forth.

It's not that we didn't hate each other pre-9/11. (Monica Lewinsky, much?) But perhaps we didn't hate each other quite so all-consumingly. Osama bin Laden didn't invent U.S. divisiveness — he merely capitalized on it. And like dutiful sheep following a ghastly shepherd, we've turned on one another: pointing the finger, for instance, at union workers like teachers for bankrupting our treasury while using the other hand to cheer on historically low tax rates for corporations.

In the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 terror attacks — as much of the nation rallied behind a previously unpopular president — one popular media narrative purported that the architects of the campaign "hated us for our freedoms." The implications of this argument were intuitive: The U.S. of A is a great nation steeped in liberties, and we must defy the hateful barbarians who attacked us lest they emerge the victors in this global game of chess.

Quoted

"Osama bin Laden didn't invent U.S. divisiveness — he merely capitalized on it."

Fast-forward 10 years, two wars (at a cost of some $4 trillion) and one crippling economic recession, and it doesn't look so good for the home team. Over the past decade, our rich have grown richer while the rest of us have sunk deeper, we've witnessed a weathering of civil liberties and, perhaps most worrying, our hate for our fellow citizens seems to have been magnified exponentially.

With the targeted assassination of former al Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden earlier this year, America may well have cut the head from the snake of fanatical Islam. But the war to stanch the bleeding from the 9/11 attacks — the poisonous rhetoric, the flourishing hate and the internal damage done by those who would seek to destroy America from within — will require the prevailing of cooler heads.

We must not allow the terrorists to win. We must hold fast to our freedoms and our standards of living. We must remain, now and forever, the United States of America.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send submissions to letters@metro.us.

AS SEEN BY THE REST OF THE WORLD

How do you think the US has been changed by 9/11?

Bolette Pilegaard Graae, 34, student, Copenhagen
I think the patriotic feeling in the U.S. has been strengthened since 9/11. The U.S. has been a country fighting a war for the past 10 years, and it wasn't before. It has become clear that the country has an enemy and who that is — the Taliban.

"The twin towers were an American icon, a symbol in which they used to mirror themselves. Without it, they lost their identity, their personality."
ANDRE LUIZ, 25, STUDENT, BRAZIL

Jakob Nerbek, 32, social worker, Copenhagen
It hasn't been changed that much except for the country's economy, which is in a horrific state. War and the fight against terror is expensive, which is an effect of 9/11. But I think Barack Obama has helped to improve the U.S.'s image.

Omar Barahona, 31, photographer, Peru
After 9/11, America became paranoid about the world. Al-Qaeda proved that this superpower country was vulnerable. And I think the United States is still fighting to recover its pride.

Maria Teresa Chavez, 28, designer, Peru
I think America changed a lot since 9/11. Nowadays it is not easy to enter the country. There are a lot of restrictions at airport, and the inmigrants in general are not so well-received as in the past.

Sebastian Nystrom, 26, developer, Stockholm
"Not only the U.S. — the whole world changed. The hunt for terrorists means it's stricter, with more monitoring."

Mariana Freitas, 19, student, Brazil
It was like Americans lost their ground, and then they felt vulnerable against the enemy. ... They became paranoid.

Roo Fox, 22, college student, London, Ontario

[The United States] hasn't changed — they're still power-hungry.

Annica Emmervall, 38, lawyer, Stockholm

Yes, security is even more important than before; and there are stricter rules for getting into the country. But I think it is important to protect openness despite what happened.

Jonathan Den Haan, 24, recent graduate, Vancouver

For me, paranoia comes to mind. It is interesting how the people of the U.S. lost their confidence and appetite for war after 9/11. America's prosperity made the people feel as if they had the authority to be part of everything; but now that can be viewed as the government failing to protect their people.

myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Crazy hot new couple alert

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Holy smokes! Here's a gossip item so steamy, its hotness might not be able to be contained to this page: It seems as though hottie extremes **Ryan Gosling** and **Eva Mendes** are dating. And if not "dating," per se, they are certainly touching each others' no-no parts.

Yes, Us Weekly has the exclusive photos of the two hugging and kissing at Disneyland on Saturday in their latest issue. "They were very playful," an observer tells the magazine. "Eva was skipping around like a little girl. ... She would lean into him and she held his arm the entire time."

Although there has been no denial or confirmation from their publicists that the two are dating, it seems weird they would go to such a public place if they didn't want to be outed. (If you didn't want people to know you're canoodling, you'd go to places where people don't go, like Missouri or a Blockbuster.) And, really, if I was either of them, I'd want the world to know I was hanging out with that hot piece, am I right? You know I'm right. Don't deny this hotness.

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MORE GOSSIP
WWW.METRO.US/WORD
DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

Jessica Simpson: Idiot

Before I share the following "news" item, please take it with a huge grain of salt. In Touch "reports" that **Jessica Simpson** is considering breast-reduction surgery before she walks down the aisle with fiance Eric Johnson. "She thinks if she downsizes her breasts, she will look smaller. She's never loved having a huge chest," a source tells the magazine.

I have a feeling that is the biggest lie In Touch magazine has ever printed, and that is saying something. Because when you think about what men hate about women, a bodacious rack they could stick their heads in for hours probably isn't the first thing on the list.

Talking points

Will, Kate return a gift

William and Kate, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, have taken it upon themselves to do a little re-gifting, starting with a Land Rover they received as a wedding present earlier this year, according to the Associated Press. The royal couple has donated the vehicle to Mountain Rescue England and Wales. "The vehicle will be greatly appreciated," a spokesman for Glossop Mountain Rescue Team, the regional team that ended up with the new ride, said in a statement. "Our present vehicle only has a shelf life of about six months, and we were embarking on a major fundraising exercise to raise more than £45,000 to replace it."

Eddie Murphy to host Oscars

The rumor has been confirmed: **Eddie Murphy** will, indeed, host the 84th annual Academy Awards. "I am enormously honored to join the great list of past Academy Award hosts from Hope and Carson to Crystal, Martin and Goldberg, among others," the actor said in a statement. It won't be his first time at the ceremony. In 2006, Murphy was nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his acclaimed role in "Dreamgirls," although the Oscar went to **Alan Arkin** of "Little Miss Sunshine."

Adele keeps it real

Adele, who has had to cancel several tour dates this year due to illness, apparently doesn't do so well on the road even when she's feeling healthy. "I puke quite a lot before going onstage," she tells British Vogue, admitting that there is a bright side to it. "The bigger the freak-out, the more I enjoy the show." But no one should mistake the singer's nerves and anxiety for issues about her weight, of which she says she has none. "I've seen people where it rules their lives, who want to be thinner or have bigger boobs, and how it wears them down," she previously said in an interview with Rolling Stone. "I don't want that in my life. I have insecurities, of course, but I don't hang out with anyone who points them out to me."

2

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Kevin Bacon is overwhelmed by remakes, Shaquille O'Neal is striking out at the White House, Charlie Sheen is immortal and Joan Rivers wants some privacy.

@SHAQ
O for three in tryin to meet the honorable president Obama

@charliesheen
EPIC year!! Thanks to all for the kind birthday wishes. I'm gonna outlive you all..! #WINNING..!!!!

@kevinbacon
First Footloose now Flatliners! Are they just remaking the ones that start with F?

@Joan_Rivers
Ben Franklin said it best: "Guests, like fish, begin to smell after 3 days." He didn't mention: "20 minutes if your guest is Snooki."

myentertainment

Blasts from the past

1: Shirley MacLaine hammed it up before being awarded the Legion of Honor medal at La Cinematheque francaise on Monday in Paris.

2: Oh hey! It's a picture of Yanni in front of a picture of Yanni. How meta! Here he is at a press conference ahead of his concert on Monday in Beijing.

3: DJ Snoopadelic (aka Snoop Dogg) performed during 2011 Electric Zoo at Randall's Island Park on Thursday in New York.

4: Henry Winkler chilled out with some of his frozen feathered friends at SeaWorld San Diego's Penguin Encounter on Friday in San Diego.

5: George Michael — still looking pretty fine for a guy who routinely passes out in his car — performed at the O2 World in Berlin on Tuesday.

6: Here's a photo we'd never think would happen: Former Vice President Dick Cheney and comedian Carrot Top (do you need help figuring how who is who?) met one another at "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" last Friday.

7: Lauryn Hill performed at the eighth annual Rock The Bells festival on Governor's Island on Saturday in New York City.

1: KRISTY SPARROW/GETTY IMAGES
2: CHINAFOTOPRESS/GETTY IMAGES
3: BEN HIDER/GETTY IMAGES
4: MIKE AGUILERA/SEAWORLD \SAN DIEGO VIA GETTY IMAGES
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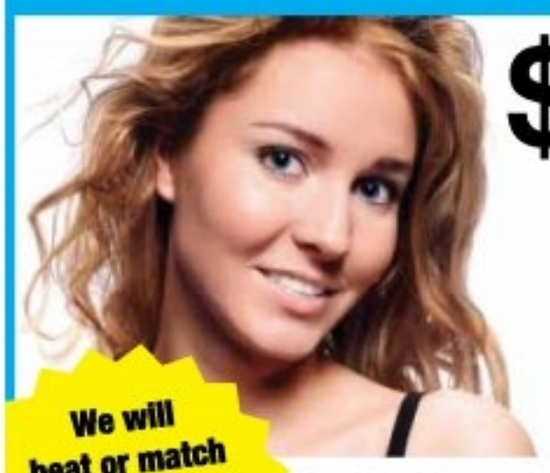

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MANHATTAN GREENMARKETS
Abingdon Square | 8am - 12:30pm
W 12 St & 8th Ave

Inwood | 8am - 12pm
Isham St b/t Seaman & Cooper

Tribeca | 8am - 1pm
Greenwich St at Chambers

This program complements existing food scrap collections at Greenmarket.

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TV watch list

▶ Denis Leary's "Rescue Me" comes to an end in time for the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

'Rescue Me'

DRAMA. After seven seasons, this painfully dark and darkly hilarious series chronicling the heroics and misadventures of a group of New York City firefighters post-9/11 comes to a close in the most fitting way possible — with the crew taking both poignant and funny methods to cope with the aftermath of last week's devastating blaze.
Series finale, 10 p.m., FX

'Master Debaters'

REALITY. A title like that for a show that dubs itself the "ultimate male roundtable" proves what we suspected — host Jay Mohr still lives in a frat house.
Series premiere, 10:30 p.m., Fuel TV

'NOVA'

NEWS. "Engineering Ground Zero" examines the design and construction of 1 World Trade Center and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum under strict security and "green" building demands, as well as the pressure to create a fitting space for remembrance.
9 p.m., PBS

AMBER RAY

It's a family affair

Playwright Richard Nelson reconvenes the Apple family on anniversary of 9/11 How this all-American clan is a microcosm of our society at large

Playwright Richard Nelson gets across his — and by extension, our — feelings about current affairs through a unique literary device: His fictional Apple family reunites to discuss what is going on in the world at large in a series of plays. Audiences first met the Apples last year in Nelson's production of "That Hopey Changey Thing," where they gathered the night of the 2010 midterm election. This year, the Apple family returns in "Sweet and Sad" on the anniversary of 9/11.

"It's set on the day it will open," says Nelson, who also directs. (Indeed; "Sweet and Sad" officially opens Sunday, the 10th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center.) "I'm tying these plays to very specific days where specific social events are happening. It's the whole essence of the series."

For "Sweet and Sad," Nelson wanted the Apples to reflect what we might "[say] in our own living room or hear on the TV." He notes that "two of the people [in the play] lived downtown at the time of 9/11, and one person worked downtown. They all had experiences, like we all did, on that day. And they will come back together to talk about it."

Nelson, the former chair of the playwriting department at the Yale School of Drama, likes using the Apple family as a microcosm of the world as a whole. "A family dynamic is like society in miniature," he explains. "It's an opportunity to talk about a much larger world. It's a very rich, textured, complex organization."

Frank talk

▶ "What I do know is that writing these plays, which are so incredibly specific in time and place, has been liberating for this writer. I feel I have found a way to address my questions of our society/culture/time/politics that derives not from ideas or (God help us) an ideology, but rather from human beings talking to human beings."
– Nelson, in his author's note

JOSEPH MORAN

Clockwise from left, Maryann Plunkett, Jay O. Sanders, Shuler Hensley, J. Smith-Cameron, Laila Robins and Jon DeVries star in "Sweet and Sad." Nelson says the next time we'll meet the Apple family is election night 2012.

'Sweet and Sad'
The Public Theater
Through Sept. 25
425 Lafayette St.
$15, 212-967-7555
www.publictheater.org

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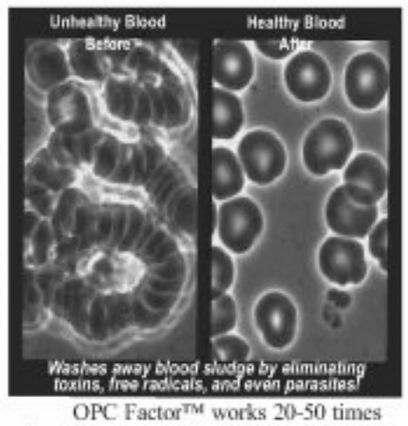

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▶ Stasik, far right, says the members of Umphrey's McGee have very different musical tastes.

Umphrey's McGee cut things down to 'Death'

Umphrey's McGee have built a fervent fan base over the years through live shows packed with long, high-energy jams. Capturing their stage sound on an album, however, presents the band with an entirely different challenge.

"It's another beast when you have to go in the studio and try to sculpt a pop song or a good rock 'n' roll song in four minutes," says bassist Ryan Stasik.

But the Chicago-based prog-rock band have reeled in their jams for the soon-to-be-released new album, "Death by Stereo."

The album showcases the band's ability to use other artists as inspiration while still maintaining a sound that is truly their own. "Search 4" is distinctly Umphrey's, but with a little bit of Phish and Frank Zappa mixed in. Meanwhile, "Miami Virtue" provides a slice of '80s pop.

"The six of us have such different musical palettes," Stasik says, "so our music is definitely going to reflect that."

Stasik says his favorite is the song, "Hajimemashite."

"It was the first song Brendan [Bayliss] and I wrote. It sounds a lot different from when we first wrote it, and it's come a long way over the years."

Beginning as a college trio 14 years ago and now gearing up for their seventh studio album, it seems Umphrey's McGee has come a long way, too.

Umphrey's McGee
Through Friday,
8:30 each night
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FASHION'S NIGHT OUT

This year, more than 1,000 stores in NYC alone are participating in FNO. So how do you navigate the city's ultimate party scene? You start with a foolproof game plan for free booze. To help you have the best time, sip on the best bubbly and score the most free goodies, we've highlighted our top events. See you there! Just remember who clued you in to free Chanel manis before you swipe the last lobster roll.

TINA CHADHA
METRO STYLE EDITOR

FIVE EVENTS YOU MUST HIT IN THE: MEATPACKING DISTRICT

1: Intermix
812 Washington St.,
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Party at Intermix's newest boutique with Rachel Zoe, who'll be making an appearance. Sip on cocktails by local hot spots such as STK and The Darby while you check out the limited-edition FNO collection from brands such as Helmut Lang, J Brand and Rag & Bone.

2: Bruce Weber Presents Weberbilt
848 Washington St. at The Biergarten at The Standard
212-226-0814, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Photographer Bruce Weber's jam party celebrating the launch of Weberbilt, his new underwear and T-shirt line, includes music courtesy of Josh Cocktail, Loggy and Big Red along with refreshments and surprises.

3: Christian Louboutin
59 Horatio St., 212-255-1910
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Two limited-edition FNO styles — the Daffodile Brodee platform pump and the Sweety Charity Brodee cross-body bag — will make their debut. Stylists from Frederic Fekkai will be on hand to treat shoppers to fancy hairdos. Plus: Grey Goose cocktails, music and treats.

4: Stella McCartney
429 W. 14th St.,
212-255-1556,
7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Alexa Chung will man the turn tables while you sip on Acai berry cocktails and take pictures in the photo booth.

5: Rebecca Taylor
34 Gansevoort St.,
212-704-0607,
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Enjoy cocktails, cake pops and tunes from Brooklyn band Avan Lava, along with DJ performances by Narcisse & Fischerspooner's Ian Pai & Le Chev. Rock your favorite Rebecca Taylor look and you'll be entered to win two tickets to the designer's fashion show.

MORE LISTINGS INSIDE

Forgo the taxi this FNO

Taking in all the sights of FNO can be hard to do when you're underground in the subway. Instead, hop aboard Volkswagen's Style Express to get a ground-floor view of everything in the all-new 2012 Volkswagen Passat and Volkswagen Touareg. If you're headed downtown, catch the cars at 50th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues; uptown travelers can hitch a ride at Greene St. between Prince and Spring. For more information, visit www.vwusa.com.

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fashion's night out

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3.1 Phillip Lim
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212-334-1160
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Lim and some of the brand's favorite ladies such as Marina Munoz will serve you cocktails created by the designer. Plus, hear music by Alexis Krauss from Sleigh Bells and a lucky shopper will wheel away with a Linus Bike and a Pashli bag.

7 For All Mankind
347 Bleecker St.
212-924-4146
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Enjoy champagne and sweets, and receive Denim Therapy — a free hem — with any jeans you buy. Hello, fall.

ALDO
579 Broadway
212-226-7974
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Shoppers can look forward to snacks, drinks, DJs and appearances by designers Julian Louie and Christian Cota. And if you missed the ALDO x Julian Louie collaboration this past spring, they're back for FNO along with a presale of ALDO x Christian Cota.

Alexander Wang
103 Grand St.
212-977-9683
7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
He's known to have the best Fashion Week after-parties, but will Alexander Wang do the same for FNO? This year the designer is holding a talent contest. Bring your best act.

Alice + Olivia
80 W. 40th St., 212-840-0887
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Alice + Olivia will host a fun and fantastical carnival where guest will be treated to sno-cones, cotton candy and quirky games. Shoppers will also have the chance to win raffle prizes.

AllSaints Spitalfields
512 Broadway
646-862-1832
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
AllSaints presents an exclusive acoustic set by The Pierces. In addition, shoppers get 20 percent off their purchases.

Anna Sui
113 Greene St.
212-941-8406
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
The first 50 customers to buy items from the fall collection receive a special gift. Plus, Anna Sui makeup artists will be on hand for mini makeovers.

Aritzia
524 Broadway
212-334-3255
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Party with the girls from Canada at their N.Y. flagship where every 10 minutes, a lucky group will get the chance to spin the "Wheel of Fashion" and win items. DJ The Rub will be spinning and Lady Luck cocktails will be served.

Atrium
644 Broadway
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Barbie

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6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
This SoHo staple will have a special giveaway along with drinks and snacks from the Mexicue food truck.

Barbie Loves FNO
37th Street & Fifth Avenue
212-465-1166
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Barbie has teamed up with designers Alexis Bittar, Alice + Olivia, Tracy Reese and Rogan for a social scavenger hunt. The way it works is that each designer created fall looks for Barbie which are strategically placed in their retail stores with a QR code. With the codes, participants can enter to win the pieces designed for Barbie in their size. Hop on Barbie's Gray Line double-decker bus to get between stores.

Barneys New York
660 Madison Ave.
212-826-8900
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Besides the fun lineup (Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, Proenza Schouler and Daphne Guinness will be just some of the fashion folks to spy) you can shop for a cause at Barneys. The department store will donate 10 percent of its Madison Avenue location's sales (and its Barneys.com sales for Sept. 8) to the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

Bergdorf Goodman
745 Fifth Ave.
212-753-7300
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
There's just so much going on at Bergdorf, from designers galore to musical performances. But the real highlight is the Designer Dog Show, where participants such as Joseph Altuzarra and Badgley Mischka hit the catwalk with their pets.

Betsey Johnson
138 Wooster St.
212-995-5048
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Enjoy tunes from DJ Kalkutta, makeup by Stila Cosmetics, cupcakes, champagne and a chance to win your very own Betsey tote.

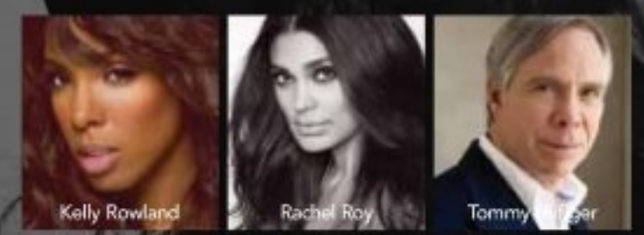
Billionaire Boys Club & Ice Cream
456 West Broadway
212-777-2225
6 p.m. to 11p.m.
The store will launch two new releases —a Billionaire Girls Club T-shirt and a special T-shirt created with A Bathing Ape — available only for the night. Pharrell will be at the store for the releases.

Bloomingdale's
1000 Third Ave.
212-705-2000
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

MORE ON PAGE 28

MACY'S CELEBRATES

FASHION'S NIGHT OUT



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If you can't join the party at our store on September 8th, tune into macys.com/fno at 6pm EST as we celebrate Fashion's Night Out. Walk the red carpet, meet your favorite designers, chat with celebrities and grab a front row seat to the magic as we live stream the event from Herald Square!

HERALD SQUARE

5pm, Broadway Marquee: Join us for the red carpet arrival!

5:30pm, Men's on 2: Meet Tommy Hilfiger and Grammy-Award®-winning recording artist Joss Stone at **Tommy's Fashion's Night Out Party!** With any $50 or more Tommy Hilfiger purchase, receive a signed copy of the new Joss Stone CD**, and a V.I.P. pass to a live performance by Joss Stone outside our main Broadway entrance at 7pm.

5:30pm, 2nd Floor, Impulse: Catch a special performance by cast members of the Tony Award®-winning hit musical CHICAGO with a special introduction by supermodel and Karl Lagerfeld muse, Coco Rocha!

6pm, Main Floor, Fragrance Arcade: Rock out to the sounds of celebrity DJ Samantha Ronson as we celebrate the launch of Gucci Guilty for Men. While you're here, experience Gucci Guilty for Women.

6pm, 2nd Floor, Impulse: Join NYC basketball star Amar'e Stoudemire and Fashion Designer Rachel Roy for a runway fashion show as they introduce their new casual, cool collaboration for RACHEL Rachel Roy – available only at Macy's.

6pm, Men's on 3: Join celebrity stylist Derek Warburton "The Style Prophet," for the 3-2-1 style makeover! Give him 2 minutes and he'll style you up in the season's latest trends! 3rd Floor, 2 minutes, 1 night only!

6:30pm, 5th Floor, Shoes: *America's Next Top Model's* Miss J Alexander hosts a special shoe party! Catch informal modeling of the essential boot looks for Fall, then learn how to walk the catwalk from the master himself!

6:30pm, Main Floor, Cosmetics: World-renowned makeup artist Bobbi Brown will show you how to look your best this Fall!

7pm, 2nd Floor, Impulse: Meet Anna Dello Russo, I.N.C. Editor-at-Large and supermodel, Karolina Kurkova. Enjoy informal modeling, refreshments and music while you shop the Fall I.N.C. collection.

7pm, 4th Floor, Dresses: Meet Kelly Rowland while you check out all of our gorgeous new dress collections for Fall!

8pm, Juniors on 4: Meet *Pretty Little Liars* (Tuesdays at 8pm ET/PT on ABC Family) star Shay Mitchell while you shop the must-haves for Fall!

QUEENS CENTER

6pm, 2nd Floor, Impulse: Strike a pose at our Fashion's Night Out Vogue Photo Op and see informal modeling of this season's must-have looks presented by celebrity stylist, Daisy Lewellyn!

6pm, Lower Level: Hang with DJ ASH from *La Mega*!

6pm, Main Floor, Cosmetics: Swing by the Sunglass Hut for some yummy sips and sweets and groove to the sounds of our live D.J. while you check out the latest styles for Fall!

Staten Island

6pm, 2nd Floor, Impulse: Strike a pose at our Fashion's Night Out Vogue Photo Op!

6pm, 2nd Floor: Meet **Z100's** Carolina Bermudez, and catch informal modeling with celeb stylist Carlton Spence!

Check out the limited edition FNO Collection; 40% of all proceeds will benefit the New York City AIDS Fund in the Community Trust.

the magic of macy's .com

fashion's night out

The party is in full force at Bloomingdale's, where shoppers can receive tons of special gifts. Highlights include: GQ magazine's launch with Dockers. Appearances by Alexander Wang, Rachel Zoe and Erin Wasson — who's there to introduce her new capsule collection with Zadig & Voltaire.

▶ Alexander Wang

▶ Lara Stone

▶ Luke's Lobster Truck will keep you rolling at Helmut Lang.

▶ Miss Piggy's collection debuts at Opening Ceremony.

▶ Calvin Klein Collection
654 Madison Ave.
212-292-9000
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Creative directors Francisco Costa and Italo Zucchelli will co-host the party with supermodel Lara Stone and basketball star Amar'e Stoudemire. Though the event is in honor of Stone — the current face of Calvin Klein — we think the best part is receiving style tips from Costa.

▶ Coach
595 Madison Ave.
212-754-0041
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Coach is bringing its classic Duffle Sac — originally introduced in 1973 — back for FNO. Check out pictures of style bloggers shot wearing the bag and sip on cocktails served to you by SNL alum Seth Meyers.

▶ David Yurman
712 Madison Ave.
212-752-4255
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Actresses Camilla Belle and Olivia Munn, along with models Arizona Muse and Joan Smalls, celebrate the brand's new ad campaign, "Born in New York. Designed in New York. Loved in New York."

▶ Destination Maternity
28 East 57th St.
212-588-0220
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
One of the cuter events of the night: Guests join Laila Ali for bites, mocktails, music and giveaways — as well as a gift bag with special treats for mom and baby (worth over $150) with a purchase of $125 or more.

▶ Dior
19 E. 57th St.
212-931-2950
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
No time to primp? No worries. Dior makeup artist Ricky Wilson will be on hand offering complimentary makeovers as Alexandra Richards mans the turntables. Don't forget to try their new Velvet Eyes reusable eyeliner patches.

▶ Dockers at Bloomingdale's 59th St.
1000 Third Ave.
Main Men's Floor
212-705-2000
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dockers, GQ magazine, the CFDA and Bloomingdale's team up for the "Best New Menswear Designers in America" program. Now's your chance to meet winner and design star Alexander Wang along with nominees Michael Bastian, Patrik Ervell, Riviera Club, Miller's Oath and Warriors of Radness as they unveil their limited-edition looks for Dockers.

▶ DVF Meatpacking District
874 Washington St.
212-542-5754
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Get amped at DVF with an icy coffee from the Coffee Bean's before Grammy winning artist Estelle takes the stage. Wind down with cocktails and bites, and capture the night in the flip-book photo booth. Before you leave, sample DVF's new fragrance, DIANE.

▶ MAKE UP FOR EVER Lash Lounge at Sephora SoHo
555 Broadway
212-5625-1309
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Batting those lashes to get what you want just got easier. At Sephora Soho Make Up Forever teach you how to apply falsies and customize lashes (think: bows, feathers, beads).

▶ GENERRA
823 Washington St.
212-457-2499
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Shoppers have a chance to win a $750 shopping spree and can get a free tote bag with purchases of $300 or more.

▶ GUESS by Marciano
537 Broadway
212-925-0817
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Stop by for this I Heart NYC-themed event where you'll enjoy beats by DJ DexterLove, mini makeovers by NYX Cosmetics and mini manicures — all while models showcase the latest fall looks. Shoppers who make a $5 donation to The NYC AIDS Fund receive a gift bag filled with goodies.

▶ Helmut Lang
93 Mercer St.
212-242-3240
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Catch a live performance by indie band Best Coast and get your picture taken in an interactive digital photo booth. Best yet, feast on gourmet bites by Luke's Lobster Truck and drinks by Death + Company.

▶ Henri Bendel
712 Fifth Ave.
212-247-1100
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Uptown and downtown party together. The LES Hester Street Fair and Bendel's are uniting for a street fair-type experience inside the Fifth Avenue flagship. You'll find an eclectic mix of food, beauty, accessories and lifestyle products including Hester Street Fair favorites Melt Bakery (who'll have a special FNO-inspired ice cream-sandwich flavor). Another bright spot: Henri Bendel has partnered with Swarovski Elements to bling the night out with crystal.

▶ Kenneth Cole SoHo
595 Broadway
212-965-0283
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Drop in for a live in-store show by Parachute. Kenneth Cole himself will be mingling, and DJ M.O.S. will get you away from the racks and on the dance floor. All FNO guests will receive a free customized T-shirt. And any guest who checks in on Foursquare will receive a free gift.

▶ Kiehl's Since 1851
109 Third Ave.
212-677-3171
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
This year, Backstreet Boy AJ McLean host's Kiehl's Karaoke Karnival. Karnival goers can expect celebrity performances raffles every hour, cocktails, cotton candy, hot dogs, pretzels and more. If you do make it to the mic, participants receive a complimentary lip balm.

▶ Kirna Zabete
96 Greene St.
212-941-9656
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Talk about star power. Here you'll get a chance to meet designers such as Proenza Schouler, Thakoon and Altuzarra while you shop their exclusive FNO designs. Plus: music by DJ Wolf, treats by People's Pops and a photo booth with Yestadt Millinery.

▶ L'Occitane en Provence
146 Spring St.
212-334-0830
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
The store will transport fashionistas to the south of France with a series of Provencal pampering possibilities including rosé wine, French fare and complimentary hand massages. But the real reason to

The carnival theme is big this year. Expect a cotton candy sugar rush at some point during the night.

Gourmet grub

Attention all foodies:

If you want some fine fare, head to the events catered by Canard. At Levi's 34th St., they set up a cowboy carving station (featuring rib-eye steak with a coffee-spice rub) and a mac 'n' cheese bar. The denim shop's Meatpacking outpost will feature specialty cocktails and comfort snacks like mini grilled cheeses and s'more truffles. At DeBeers, the "Love, Marriage, Equality" theme will be reflected in a butternut squash, prosciutto and goat cheese turnover and a crab and melon salad. And sweet and savory is the name of the game at TES Cashmere, where shoppers can indulge in barbecued brisket with fudge brownies.

MEREDITH ENGEL

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WWW.METRO.US/FNO

stop by: L'Occitane will raffle off a trip to Provence for two.

LEVI'S Meatpacking
414 West 14th St.
415-501-7311
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Levi's hooks you up with a live musical performance, gourmet sips and snacks, gift with purchase and custom fittings.

Lisa Perry
976 Madison Ave.
212-334-1956
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Celebrate '60s-style with Lisa Perry and the cast of the upcoming television show "PAN AM" while shopping and sipping on cocktails.

Macy's Herald Square
151 W. 34th St.
212-695-4400
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
There's a ton of fun stuff going on in the Herald Square location, including personal appearances by Tommy Hilfiger, Coco Rocha, Rachel Roy, Amar'e Stoudemire, Bobbi Brown, Anna Dello Russo and the Gucci Guilty Dance Party with DJ Samantha Ronson. There'll also be performances by Kelly Rowland and Joss Stone. Our favorite part: the Macy's Flower Cart will hand out flowers to FNO attendees.

Manolo Blahnik
31 W. 54th St.
212-582-3007
6 p.m. to 11p.m.
Make Carrie Bradshaw proud and head to Manolo Blahnik where Sarah Jessica Parker will be on hand to unveil the shoe she designed with the deigner. To toast to their collaboration, a van will be tooting around the city with Blahnik's favorite treat — milkshakes. A portion of the proceeds will go to The Fund for Public Schools.

Marc Jacobs
382 Bleeker St.
212-929-0304
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
The designer is hosting a carnival-themed block party. Shoppers will receive a limited-edition Marc Jacobs carnival tote bag (while supplies last) and Sofia Mini champagne cans will be served.

Two throwbacks: The cast of "Pan Am" will be at Lisa Perry, and People's Pops visits Kirna Zabete.

MAC Cosmetics Times Square
1540 Broadway
646-355-0296
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Confident in your look? Take it to anonymous performance artists Gill & Jill Bumby, who will provide their "Fair and Honest Appraisals of Your Appearance" at MAC stores in SoHo and Times Square.

MAC Cosmetics
109 Spring St.
212-334-4641
8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Until 9 p.m., Beth Ditto takes the stage for a special three-song set.

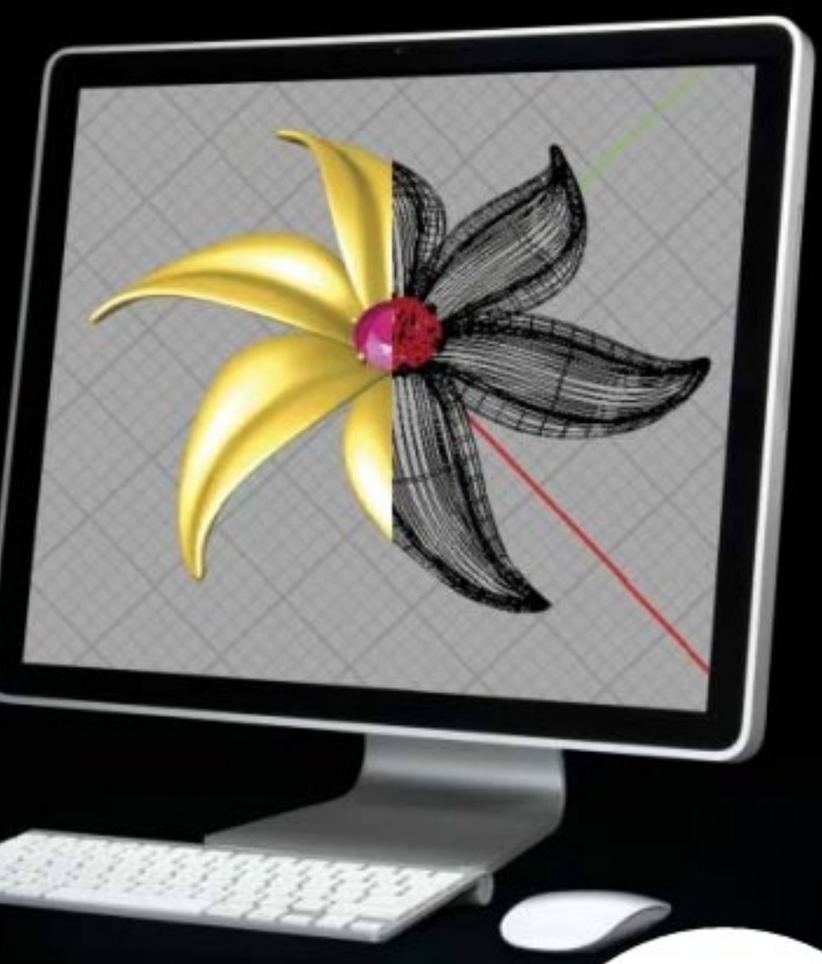
Nicole Miller
77 Greene St. 212-219-1825
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sip on Absolut Vodka cocktails and get down to the beats by DJ Harley Viera Newton. Then consider buying yet another te — Miller created one just the night, and 15 percent of proceeds for each bag goes ndego Africa, an organiza- helping female artisans in anda.

OAK
28 Bond St.
212-677-1293
7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Get groovy with OAK. There'll be disco and '70s psych playing; and discover limited-edition '70s T-shirts by The Seventh Heart. Plus: shopping incentives all night long.

Opening Ceremony
Ace Hotel
29 Street and Broadway
OC is celebrating Argentina — its country of focus for 2012 — with a carnival-themed party. Band of Outsiders and Rodarte are involved, plus dance performances outfitted by designers like Alexander Wang and Suno. But what's sure to blow minds is an appearance by Miss Piggy, who's on hand to unveil the new Muppets x Opening Ceremony collection.

MORE ON PAGE 32

For the truly creative mind,
a good idea is just the beginning.



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fashion's night out

FASHION'S NIGHT OUT EXCLUSIVE

There's more than just free booze to score during fashion's biggest party Special launches and limited-edition pieces to get your hands on

1. To celebrate the opening of their first U.S. flagship, Mulberry created an exclusive bag called The New York Clipper ($950) that's inspired by the city and features special detailing — Big Apple, anyone? — and hardware. Get it while you can — there are only 50 bags made in three colors (red, white and blue).
134 Spring St.
212-835-4700

2. Besides the chance to score some beauty tips from creative director Francois Nars, head to Nars' flagship to snag a bottle of their Space Odyssey nail polish ($17). Inspired by Guy Bourdin's provocative photos, the limited-edition sexy, sparkly lacquer will only be available on Sept. 8.
413 Bleecker St.
646-459-2323

3. Stop by Chanel for a mani with the brand's newest collection, Les Jeans de Chanel, a trio of blue lacquers inspired by your wardrobe staple: a chic pair of denim ($29 each).
737 Madison Ave.
212-535-5505

4. 100 percent of the net proceeds of J Brand's "Coated Shocking Pink" jean ($227) will be donated to the New York City AIDS Fund. You can find them at at Atrium, Bergdorf Goodman, Bloomingdale's (59th St.), Intermix, Jeffrey and Saks.

5. The coolest key chain you've seen: Alexander McQueen's limited-edition crystal skull key ring ($195), created for FNO, is available both in stores and online.
417 W. 14th St.
212-645-1797

6. Alexa Chung at the turn tables might be the main attraction at Stella McCartney's FNO party, but we've got our eye on this adorable charm bracelet ($165) made especialy for the night. Plus: eco mojitos — how Stella! — and a photo booth.
429 W. 14th St.
212-255-1556

TINA CHADHA

Sterling silver charms from $25

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Benefiting **ProjectLadybug**...the hottest ticket in Gotham, the **SHOP ADDICTS FASHION BINGE** commemorates Fashion Week. Come celebrate our Shopping Extravaganza. **PLUS** enjoy an exclusive RUNWAY preview of the **INDIE SHOW 2012.** Presenting: **Xiomara Creations, Erin Shaw, Glam Apparel,** and **Jewels of Ocean.**

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Catering sponsored by: **FABULOUS FOODS Event Designers & Caterers by Fred M. Luberto.** Alcohol sponsored by : **Wine Gallery & R&R Marketing.** *VIP ONLY: Free drinks 6 - 8:30 pm ONLY. 8:30 pm - Cash Bar.

Tickets: VIP Attendees: $30(includes Deluxe Goodie Bag, Drinks, Spa & Salon Services). Entrance @ 6 pm. **General Admission:** First come, First Serve - $5.00 (suggested donation). Entrance 7 pm.

Location: Arena Lounge - 135 West 41st Street (Between Broadway & 6th Avenue)
http://fashionnightout2011.charityhappenings.org

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Analyst Andrei Tratseuski (above) instructs trading seminars at 120 Wall Street.

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Forex trading involves substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors.

fashion's night out

More in Manhattan:

QVC
428 Broadway at Howard St.
484-701-1000
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Live broadcast from 9 p.m. to midnight
Stopping by QVC's FNO soiree are celebs such as Kris Jenner, Anna Wintour and Heidi Klum. Look for lots of free giveaways and exclusive offers.

Rag & Bone
119 Mercer St.
212-219-2204
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Knicks fans, we've found your event: Rag & Bone's Marcus Wainwright and David Neville, along with co-hosts Carmelo and La La Anthony will be holding court at the SoHo store. Quick: Sign up online for an invitation to the event.

Ralph Lauren
109 Prince St.
212-625-1660
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Hunky Argentine polo player Nacho Figueras will be on hand making the ladies swoon. Plus: champagne and beats spun by Scratch DJ Academy.

Revlon at the Mondrian SoHo
9 Crosby St.
212-527-4657
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Primp for the night with Revlon's global artistic director Gucci Westman. Ticketholders get access to a personal consultation with Westman followed by a makeup application from a member of Gucci's team. Also, treat yourself to a manicure, accompanied by cocktails and small bites. Attendees will also get a chance to win two tickets to Rag & Bone's show. Tickets to this event are on sale, and all proceeds will be donated to "Look Good Feel Better," a charity that supports women undergoing cancer treatment.

Saks Fifth Avenue
611 Fifth Ave.
212-753-4000
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Floors of fun at Saks feature: designers Alexis Bittar, Yigal Azrouel, Prabal Gurung, plus actress Tilda Swinton. Get Marc Jacobs Minx Nails manicures, dance to a DJ set with Questlove and visit a braid bar hosted by Rebecca Minkoff and The Man Repeller.

Shopbop.com
8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Stuck at work or out of the city? Shopbop.com will keep you in the loop. Just visit www.shopbop.com/fashion-night-out to shop the FNO collection and watch live-streamed footage of the night's festivities; and watch for a chance to win a $5,000 shopping spree.

Theophilus London

Stuart Weitzman
625 Madison Ave.
212-750-2555
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Meet Michelle Trachtenberg and Hayden Panettiere as they unveil their Young Hollywood Cares shoe collection benefiting ovarian cancer research.

Target
1095 Sixth Ave.
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Shop a special preview of the Missoni for Target collection before it arrives in stores on Sept. 13. Angela Missoni and Margherita Maccapani Missoni will both be on hand; and the first 20 guests to spend more than $100 will have the chance to take a quirky, family-style portrait with the Missonis!

Teen Vogue
Bleecker and W. 11th streets
212-286-7087
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Teen Vogue is hosting a block party that will include free manicures from Essie, a pop-up shop, AriZona iced tea smoothies, photo booths, a performance by Sky Ferreira and more.

Tommy Hilfiger
681 Fifth Ave.
212-223-1824
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Meet Tommy Hilfiger and Theophilus London. Guest who spend a minimum of $250 will receive VIP access to see Theophilus London perform.

Tracy Reese
641 Hudson St.
212-807-0505
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Put your back into it at Tracy Reese's Meatpacking location, where they designer will judge a dance contest and prizes will be awarded. Those not up for dancing can enjoy the music and wine. Guests who spend more than $300 will be entered in a raffle to win a prize.

Highlights in Brooklyn:

Artists & Fleas
70 North Seventh St.
917-301-5765
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Brooklyn's longest-running artist, designer and vintage market brings together more than 50 vendors to showcase new items from their Fall/Winter collections. There will be a fashion show and DJ sets throughout the evening.

Artists & Fleas has something for everyone.

Bird Williamsburg
203 Grand St.
718-338-1655
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Designer Rachel Comey co-hosts this event, which will feature exclusive merchandise, treats and champagne. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Lower Eastside Girls Club.

Jane
135 Grand St.
212-772-0712
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
There'll be wine and cheese by Local Billyburg establishments and clothing by Jane. Also expect drinks, bites and a free gift bag.

Jimmy's New York
360 Avenue U
718-266-8777
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Shop and mingle with special guest designers: Cushnie et Ochs, Ohne Titel and Peter Soronen.

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Julia James Boutique
200 Franklin St.
347-763-0065
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Indulge in drinks and desserts and enjoy a free gift with every purchase. Bonus: Anyone who stops by will be able to enter a raffle for a gift bag full of goodies.

Eponymy
466 Bergen St.
718-789-0301
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Listen to Gypsy jazz guitarist Stephane Wrembel, view photo art show and shop new fall collections from designers including Helsinki, JNBY and Paul and Joe Sister.

AnGG New York Boutique
325 Seventh St. at Fifth Ave.
718-788-2898
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Refreshments and cocktails will be served, and there will be a raffle drawing at the end of the night for gift certificates up to $250!

Antoinette
119 Grand St. Brooklyn
718-387-8664
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
DJ Chris Love will be spinning house disco, funk and soul classics. Champagne will be served, and customers who spend $50 will receive a free tote.

AweDacity!
806 Washington Ave.
718-789-0838
8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Enjoy jazzy rhythms peppered with the flavor of reggae by Fredrix Live N Direct.

Michelle New York
376 Atlantic Ave.
718-643-1680
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Enjoy cocktails, private styling sessions, guest designers showcasing Fall/Winter Collections and more throughout the evening.

Thistle & Clover
221 DeKalb Ave.
718-855-5577
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Thistle & Clover will hold a launch party for Issue Five of the Thistle & Clover Diaries, which acts as an informational showcase for the fresh new talent featured in the boutique. Snacks and fashionably themed "lite bites" will be served.

Highlights in Queens:

Traffic
90-15 21st Queens Blvd.
718-651-7470
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Stylist will be on hand to help you find the right accessories and shoes.

Macy's Rego Park
90-01 Queens Center Blvd.
Queens Center Mall
718-271-7200
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Enjoy mini makeovers, special gifts with purchase and ongoing contests throughout the night with sweet prizes. The festive mood continues with music provided by a local radio DJ.

KrisTEES
24-01 23rd Ave.
718-204-5031
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
The boutique will feature a trunk show with exclusive local indie designers, refreshments and a new decorative home department by Peter Valcarcel. Each guest will also receive a very special gift with purchase designed in celebration of the night.

Swarovski
90-15 Queens Blvd.
Queens Center Mall
718-271-7652
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Receive a sparkling, crystallized compact as your gift with any $150 purchase. Enter to win a crystal necklace, enjoy champagne and indulgent red-velvet cupcakes. Bonus: Receive a crystal tattoo just for stopping by.

Bare Escentuals, Macy's
9001 Queens Blvd.
Queens Center Mall
718-271-7200
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Take home a free, limited-edition tote bag with any $50 Bare Escentuals purchase — and you can be the first to score their new Drop Red Gorgeous kit before it launches in October.

Malawi
187-22 Union Turnpike
718-454-9699
9 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Enjoy a class in African dancing conducted by world-famous teacher, Djoniba Momufflet. A portion of the night's sales will go to Manhattan's Beacon High School music department.

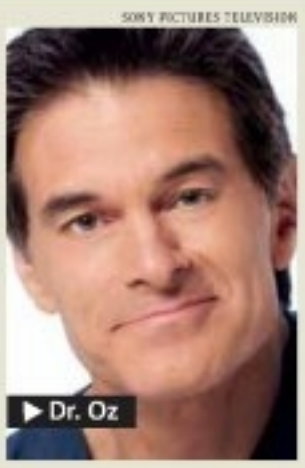
mywellbeing

Q&A

The Doctor (Oz) is in

Dr. Mehmet Oz takes a break from filming season three of "The Dr. Oz Show" to talk to us.

What do you think is the biggest health crisis facing young professionals in America?
There's a massive problem in America with loneliness. And I know that sounds like a weird first step. I could have picked obesity, which is a huge problem among the young. And I could have picked stress, but I think the main reason stress is such an issue for so many young professionals is because of loneliness that so many feel. And I think social networks have attempted to bring back the connections, but I don't think [they've] really addressed it like [they need] to. What helps us make sense of suffering and discomfort is the people in our lives. So, if you're a young professional in America and you're having difficulty connecting, then you have less of a network that supports you as those crisis points hit. Loneliness is, across the globe, a big issue. I think, especially for the young generation, they're going to have to find those tools [to fight it]. It's not going to come through social networks. It's going to take more than that.



Season three of "The Dr. Oz Show" premieres on Monday.

Do people ever come up to you on the street and ask questions they'd normally reserve for their own doctor? How do you respond to that?
Oh, it happens all the time. I never mind it. It takes me a minute, two minutes to give you some information that might give you confidence to do what you already thought you should do, or maybe change your mind about what you were going to do. To me, that's just a small thing to offer you — and I'd much rather do that than take a picture or sign an autograph.

MEREITH ENGEL

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mywellbeing

A US Open-inspired workout at home

- You don't need to head to Flushing Meadows for these exercises
- Let Crunch NYC teach you how to get moving like the professionals

The US Open is in full swing (ha!), and while you might not be able to play on the courts of Arthur Ashe Stadium, you can do the following moves to get ripped like Rafa, Serena and other tennis greats. Do 10 reps of each exercise and then repeat on the opposite side. If you don't have access to a Smart Bell, then a dumbbell, medicine ball or milk jug can be used.

▶ 1) Ferocious Forehand:
Begin standing with feet hip-width apart holding the Smart Bell in both hands. Bend at the knees and lower down into a "ready" squat position. Rotate your upper body to the right while simultaneously drawing the Smart Bell back to the right with the right hand. Then, swing the Smart Bell back to the starting position as if you were striking a forehand.

▶ 2) Brutal Backhand:
Assume the "ready" squat position from the Ferocious Forehand. Rotate your upper body to the left while simultaneously drawing the Smart Bell back to the left with both hands. Then, swing the Smart Bell back to the starting position as if you were striking a backhand.

▶ 3) Grand Slam Serve:
Begin standing while holding the Smart Bell in the right hand behind your body. Swing the Smart Bell up overhead and then down in front as if you were swinging through a serve.

▶ 4) Vicious Volley:
Begin standing in "ready" position with knees bent, holding the Smart Bell in both hands. Rotate your body to the left and bring the Smart Bell down, a foot off the ground. Twist your body up and to the left as you simultaneously bring the Smart Bell overhead. Reach the Smart Bell as high up as you can and then bring it back down to starting position.

▶ 5) Fifth-Set Squat:
Begin standing with feet hip-width apart holding the Smart Bell in both hands. Bend at the knees and lower down into a low squat while dropping the Smart Bell between the legs. Explode up to standing while simultaneously bringing the Smart Bell overhead.

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
letters@metro.us

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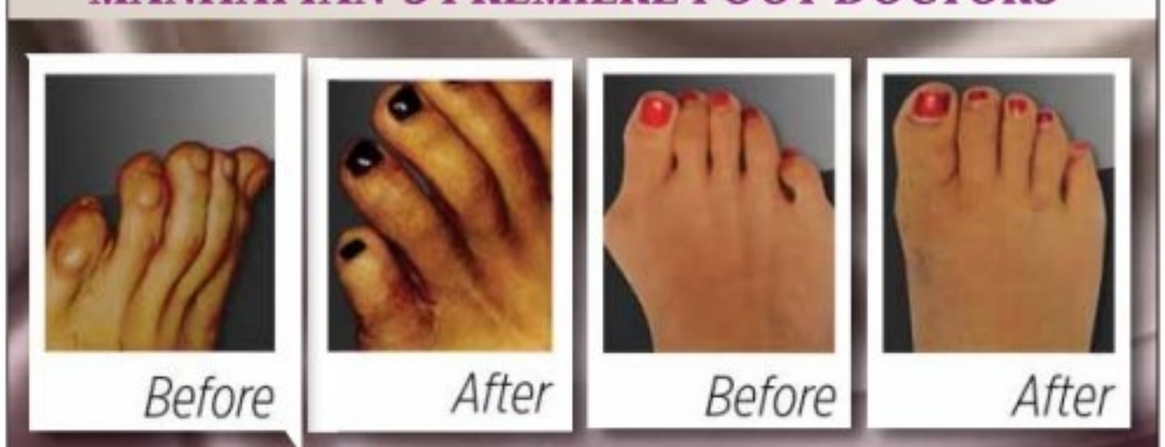

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Back-to-school foods you'll want to feed your kids

We asked the real critics (the kids who would be eating these!) for their thoughts on some easy, nutritious breakfasts that are perfect for busy mornings What would they 'like mommy to buy more' of this fall?

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

Buddy Fruits Pure Fruit Bites
These all-natural, 100 percent fruit snacks, available in flavors like apple, raspberry and pomegranate/acai, earned a thumbs up from our reviewers. "They are very tart, but that's good," says Gabriella Clark, 8. Emily Abrams, 10, thought they were stickier than ordinary fruit snacks, but her 8-year-old sister Katie said they were softer and easier to chew.
$18 for a pack of 18, www.amazon.com

Thomas' Blueberry Bagel Thins
The portable bagel flats are perfect for kids racing out the door in the morning, and we have to admit, we loved them just as much as they did! Katie Abrams said she liked them better than regular bagels and "would like Mommy to buy more." The best news: They're made with 10 grams of whole grains and clock in at only 110 calories per serving.
$3.29 to $4.29, grocery stores

Jimmy Dean Jimmy D's Breakfast Minis
These mini sausage sandwiches are easy to prep (they take under two minutes in the microwave) and surprisingly nutritious (230 calories and 11 grams of protein per serving). But the sausage-bread-combo left our testers wanting more: "All I can taste is the bread," reports Clark. "I really liked it, but wish it had egg or cheese on it too," says Xander Grillo, 7.
$4.99, grocery stores

GoGo squeeZ all-natural snacks
Parents will be glad to learn that these squeezable applesauce varieties contain 100 percent fruit and provide 3/4 serving of your daily fruit needs. Kids will just enjoy eating them: "I love it because of the taste, [and] I love the package," says Grillo. Adds Clark: "I could eat these forever."
$2.99, Whole Foods

myletters&games

Letters

letters@metro.us

New plan, same as the old plan

Obama's plan on creating new jobs is to do what most politicians have already done — throw some money at roads and bridges that need to be fixed and then hope for the best. Are we living in a time where we just roll over and accept what is given to us? Or are we going to learn how to differentiate wrong from right and say, "end the tax breaks for the wealthy" and implement a plan that would better create long-term jobs for those who desperately need them?

RICARDO CUMMINGS, VIA E-MAIL

Fix the economy, create jobs? That's neither the function of the president nor the Congress! What they could do to help would be to stop the wild spending spree such as these unconstitutional wars, foreign aid and getting out of areas where the government has no business — like housing, medicine and education, just to name a few.

FRANK ST GEORGE, EAST ROCKAWAY

Missing one important stat

RE: "9/11 BY THE NUMBERS": For your attempt to statistically summarize the decade since 9/11/01, Steve Annear missed the most important figure: 2,977 — the number of innocent lives lost that day in Lower Manhattan, Washington, D.C., and Shanksville, Pa. Egregious oversight.

WILLIAM BURKE, VIA E-MAIL

The denial of our religion

RE: "THE RELIGION OF OUR DENIAL": Mr. Dupont's outrage is understandable when it comes to the word "god" being banned at military funerals. I say it's understandable because people like him often get enraged at things that don't actually exist — but in fact the opposite is the problem. The VA has not banned the use of the word "god" at military funerals nor are they blocking prayers so long as the families request them. As far as the clergy ban at the 9/11 10th anniversary memorial ceremony goes, I support it wholeheartedly. The 9/11 attacks were perpetrated by crazed religious zealots. The last thing we need is for the memorial services to be hijacked by more of them.

JIM MOREY, VIA E-MAIL

Better the clergy of all faiths stand with the rest of us on that day, rather than over us on a podium.

JOSEPH CONNELL, BROOKLYN

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Do not take on an assignment that must be completed today if you're not sure you can do it in time. It's better to be honest up front rather than make yourself look bad by falling short.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** You'll not mind helping out another as long as the act is voluntary. Being manipulated by another to do his or her bidding, however, is likely to make you extremely resentful.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Keep your obligations to friends in proper perspective. Don't rush to help someone you want to impress but who has done nothing for you.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If success eludes you, it isn't likely to be because you're unwilling to work hard. It may be due to the fact that your focus is more on fun and games than on your obligations.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It's never smart to debate philosophical issues because there is no solving them. Chances are each side can get too emotionally involved.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Parity will be required in order for a joint endeavor to be successful. If you're not willing to give as much as the other guy or gal puts toward a project, don't get involved.

♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** Be honest about your lack of know-how instead of trying to tackle something you can't possibly handle. You'll only embarrass yourself.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** You could easily thwart your own purposes by being unduly aggressive. Slow down and take it easy because trying too hard can be as ineffective as not trying at all.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Understate your sales pitch and let the listener fill in the blanks with what they want. Sometimes a soft sell is the most effective weapon.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Just because someone is a good friend is not reason enough to ask financial advice from him or her. Make sure the person you go to has the experience to advise you wisely.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Put your mind in gear before you open your mouth and start talking. If you don't, all kinds of things could come out, such as some ill-chosen words.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** One of your favorite friends, who's always in a financial bind, might hit on you once again to bail him or her out. It's time to put limits on how much and how often you can do so.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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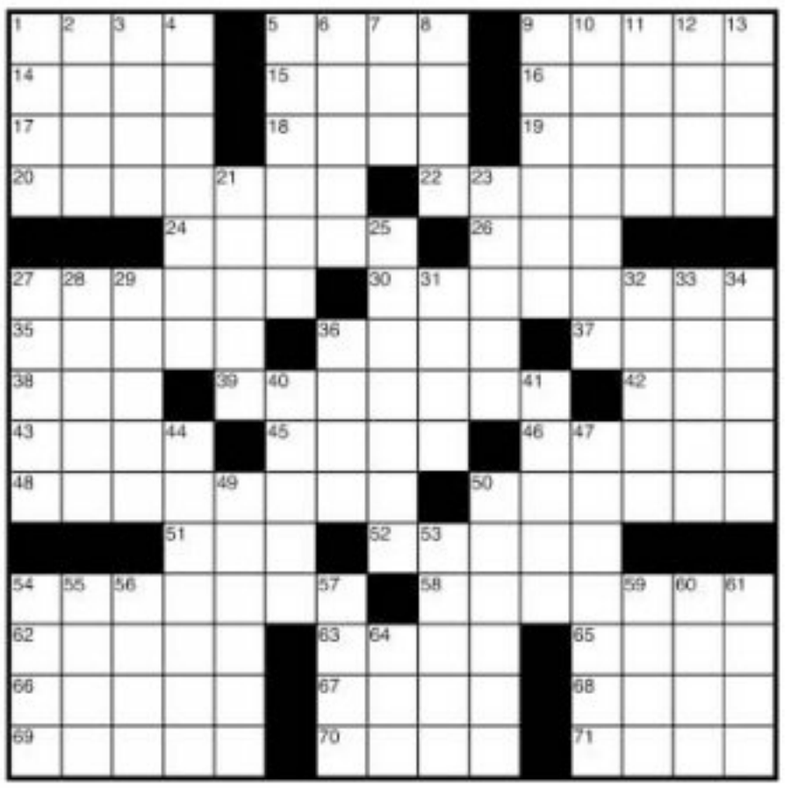
Across
1 Dauntless
5 Fish lander
9 Threshing debris
14 Help! in Le Havre (2 wds.)
15 NYC theater award
16 Mean dwelling
17 Squeals on
18 "__ here long?"
19 Chosen few
20 Hardly a torrent
22 Tried hard
24 Comic-strip queen
26 Govt. agency
27 It has a certain attraction
30 As spoken
35 Shack or mansion
36 One-liner
37 Quick to the helm
38 Train unit
39 Move ahead
42 NBA's Manute
43 Between ports
45 Lettuce buy
46 Geneva's river
48 Lost it (2 wds.)
50 Raspy-sounding
51 Shiny metal
52 Muscat citizen
54 Slippery
58 Torpor
62 Hawk's lair
63 Inning enders
65 "Misery" co-star
66 Water conduits
67 Fictional pirate
68 Wrist-to-elbow bone
69 __ & Young
70 Rank below marquis
71 Hardy's dairymaid

Down
1 Minstrel
2 FitzGerald's poet
3 Viaud's nom de plume
4 Break up
5 Wine glass
6 Red as __ __
7 A pox upon thee!
8 Swamp
9 Little angel
10 Time off
11 Tel __
12 Honor in style
13 Left in a hurry
21 Censor
23 A crowd?
25 Guacamole base
27 Colorful parrot
28 Humiliate
29 Bridge expert
31 Was very thrifty
32 Fifer's drum
33 Wrinkle removers
34 Rumpus
36 "Piano Man" name
40 Dry white wine
41 Hum
44 Reaches
47 Flattop or mohawk
49 Most prudent
50 Grimm youngster
53 Bishop's hat
54 Sports event
55 Raise, as kids
56 Limerick's land
57 Capsule, maybe
59 Fable
60 Holm and Woosnam
61 Santa __ (hot winds)
64 Ms. Thurman of films



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

R	A	P	T	■	P	E	R	M	■	C	R	O	W	D
O	G	R	E	■	E	L	I	A	■	L	U	N	A	R
B	R	O	N	Z	E	A	G	E	■	U	S	U	R	Y
E	E	O	■	O	W	N	S	■	A	N	T	S	Y	■
D	E	F	I	N	E	D	■	B	A	K	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	S	E	E	■	T	I	R	E	D	L	Y	■
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H	A	S	N	T	■	O	G	L	E	■	C	A	R	R
S	M	A	S	H	■	N	O	S	Y	■	E	L	S	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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BROTHERLY LOVE?

Ryan brothers tone down talk heading into 9/11 anniversary game
Rex understands importance of winning to city Buddy to attend also

There won't any one-liners this time as Rex Ryan, the affable Jets head coach, gets ready to face his twin brother Rob, the Cowboys defensive coordinator, on Sunday night.

Last year, the two brothers squared off in an overtime win by the Jets in Cleveland, but the real battle began in the days leading up to the game. During his midweek press conference, Rex Ryan took to the podium with a pillow under his shirt and a blonde wig on, clearly poking fun at his brother's portly shape and long locks. This year, given the fact that the game takes place on the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks and will be played just minutes from Ground Zero, the brothers have ratcheted down the talk.

"He knows that it's 9/11. He can poke fun and obviously last year that was good for him and I love him, but that's just the way he is," Rob Ryan said Monday. "But if he does I'd be surprised."

For his part, Rex Ryan sidestepped any chances to further the trash talk between the two, choosing to remember that he too watched the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on television. Both brothers recall being worried about a cousin, Matthew Russo, who was a firefighter in New York. Russo was not called to the site of the attack that day and has since retired.

But the Jets' head coach feels the pressure of the game. He realizes that his team represents a city still coming to terms with the senseless act of terrorism that peaceful Tuesday morning. Last week, the Jets visited Ground Zero to pay their respects to the victims of the attacks.

"I feel it. It's different," Rex Ryan said. "The significance of it, it's stronger. I don't know."

KRISTIAN DYER
sports@metro.us

AL PEREIRA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Rex Ryan, left, and Rob Ryan, right, pose with their father Buddy before last year's game in Cleveland. Rob, now a coach for the Cowboys, will face the Jets this Sunday.

Father shuns cancer to attend

Adding further emotion for both teams is that Buddy Ryan, their father, will be in attendance.

Buddy Ryan is battling cancer and is scheduled to have surgery Sept. 16.

"Anytime you got cancer again, it's a huge concern," Rex Ryan said.

"This game is important to him and he's going to get operated on after the game," Rob Ryan said. "He wants to see these two rams bat heads and we're going to get after it." METRO/KD

5
Super Bowl rings for the Ryans. All five were won as assistants. Rex won in 2000, Buddy in 1969 and 1985, and Rob in 2001 and 2003.

In the news

Giants lose yet another player

Is there something worse than being cursed.

Just days after the Giants announced LB Clint Sintim would miss the year with a torn ACL, ESPN is reporting fellow LB Jonathan Goff tore his ACL in practice and will also miss the whole season.

He would be the sixth Giants defender out for the season. In other bad news, Tom Coughlin announced Osi Umenyiora will likely miss Game 1.

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Rookies glad to hear nothing

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READ MARK HERZLICH'S THOUGHTS ON MAKING CUT

On NFL draft day, an athlete's biggest dream is to hear his phone ring. But on NFL cut day, a phone call from his team is the last thing he wants to hear. Luckily for a select few of Big Blue's rookies, their phones stayed quiet well past Saturday's 6 p.m. deadline and are now part of the 53-man roster.

"When we came in [Monday] we got right to work and got right to Washington," said undrafted rookie fullback Henry Hynoski, who survived cut day. "It is intense around here and everybody is down to business. We are getting ready to go out and have a great game this week."

The Giants have 10 rookies on their roster, including seven of their draft choices. Due to the injury bug hitting them early, specifically on defense, head coach Tom Coughlin said he'll have to depend on many green athletes. With so many banged-up players they better be ready for the workload right away.

"It better be a good thing, it has to be a good thing," he said of the forced youth movement. "They bring vitality, they bring energy and I just hope we can get it down, chain it down and get it in the right direction."

Rookie linebacker Mark Herzlich said he thinks the young players can hold up their end. TONY WILLIAMS

ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Former Pitt fullback Henry Hynoski may start at fullback.

YES, FOOTBALL IS BACK! ... AHH! MY EYES!

Opinion

JASON McINTYRE
SPORTS@METRO.US

It's good to have football back, isn't it? After a boring sports summer full of lockouts and low-rent baseball pennant races, I greatly enjoyed sitting on the couch all day Saturday watching college football.

Thanks to the advent of DVR, you can pause the game, run out and pick up a pizza and not miss a thing. You just have to stay off social media for a minute.

But did anyone else notice that as the weekend wore on, the jerseys got more and more ridiculous? The new fad in college football is wearing flashy uniforms with brazen color schemes because the high school kids who you're recruiting think they're cool.

Nice helmet, buddy

GETTY IMAGES

Oregon has found some success doing this in recent years, and now teams like Georgia, Boise State and Maryland are all trying to duplicate the Ducks' magic. Quick: Can you come up with the names of three Maryland players or 10 funny comments you heard about the Maryland uniforms?

Grab that attention in a nationally-televised game while you can Terps!

Quoted

"Grab that attention in a nationally-televised game while you can Terps!"

Look! A blond wife!

What's with the trend of college football players getting married ... while still in college? You may recall that former Texas star **Colt McCoy** got hitched while still a student a couple of years back.

While they were engaged, TV cameras often found McCoy's blond girlfriend in the crowd. She became an online sensation.

Kellen Moore, Boise State's quarterback, did the same thing. Moore married his middle-school girlfriend over the summer. Now Moore's wife, **Julie**, can get the same treatment. Cameras caught her in the stands Saturday night and it's safe to assume you'll be seeing lots of her this year.

Wacky NFL predictions

With the NFL season starting tomorrow night, can I interest you in some wacky predictions for the upcoming season?

Aaron Rodgers has dated a grapefruit heiress, a singer and a couple of actresses. He'll start dating a female athlete (**Hope Solo** is single, right?) and when Green Bay loses in the playoffs, someone will mention that **Tom Brady** hasn't won a title since he starting dating **Gisele**. ... **Jay Cutler** and the Bears will be terrible, but Cutler's ex-fiancee will finish in the Top 3 on Dancing with the Stars. ... **Reggie Bush** will be a fixture on the South Beach scene and the Miami Dolphins will have the worst record in the league ... The Saints beat the Chargers in a high-scoring Super Bowl.

– Jason Raj McIntyre covers athletes off the field and runs the popular blog, The Big Lead.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 300-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

Now where will I put this one? Serena runs out of room for all her trophies

In her new home in Los Angeles, Serena Williams has a karaoke room and a gentlemen's lounge.

But she's running out of room for her tennis trophies.

"I don't have any more space," said Williams, who has won 39 career singles titles and 20 more in doubles. "I would love to keep winning them. But we're like, 'OK, what are we going to do with this one?'"

If she can win three more matches this week, Williams will have to make room for another U.S. Open trophy and an oversized check for $1 million for winning the U.S Open summer series and the Open itself.

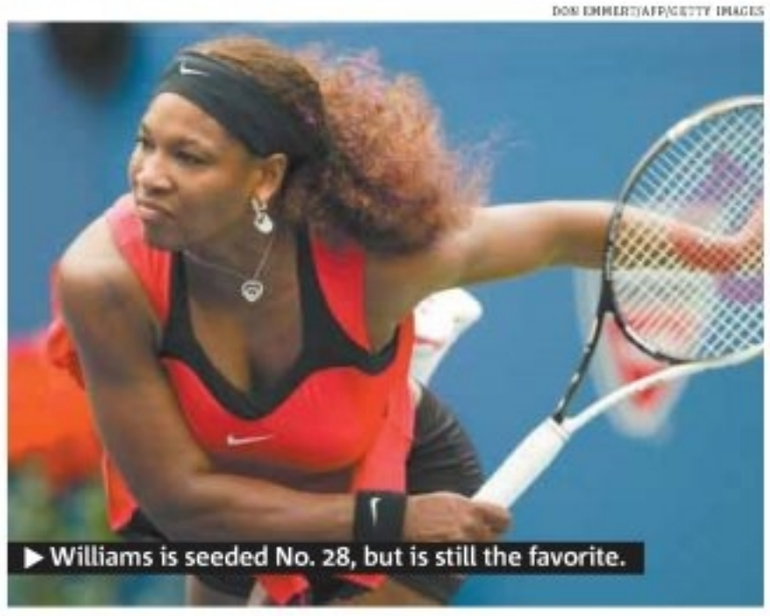
"As I said even before the match, I think she's the favorite for the tournament," No. 16 Ana Ivanovic said after losing to Serena in the fourth round Monday, 6-3, 6-4.

Even Spike Lee, who sat in Serena's player's box for the match, is picking her to win her 14th major title.

"She's gonna win," Lee told CBSSports.com.

Next up for Serena in the quarterfinals is Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, a hard-hitting, 20-year-old Russian seeded No. 17. That match is scheduled for Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in Arthur Ashe Stadium. After that, Serena could meet No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki in the semis. ADAM ZAGORIA

DON EMMERT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Williams is seeded No. 28, but is still the favorite.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Serial # Pending for Wine & Beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 75 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY, 11217 for on-premise consumption. Ayaka Sushi Corp. d/b/a Shinju III Sushi.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of PLG SERVICES LLC Arts of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/14/2011 Office location: Bronx County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LLC c/o 321 E. 178th Street, #2b, Bronx, NY 10457 Purpose: Any lawful activity

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Ajax Consulting LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on August 24, 2011. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Neil D. Ash, 122 East 42nd Street, Suite 1507, New York, NY 10168. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Mactas & Alper LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on August 24, 2011. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 292 Madison Avenue, 7th Floor New York, NY 10017. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, serial # 1257129, for wine & beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell wine & beer at retail under the alcoholic beverage control law at 446A Dean St. Brooklyn, NY 11217. Kings County, for on-premise consumption. Alari Di-Bari Corp.

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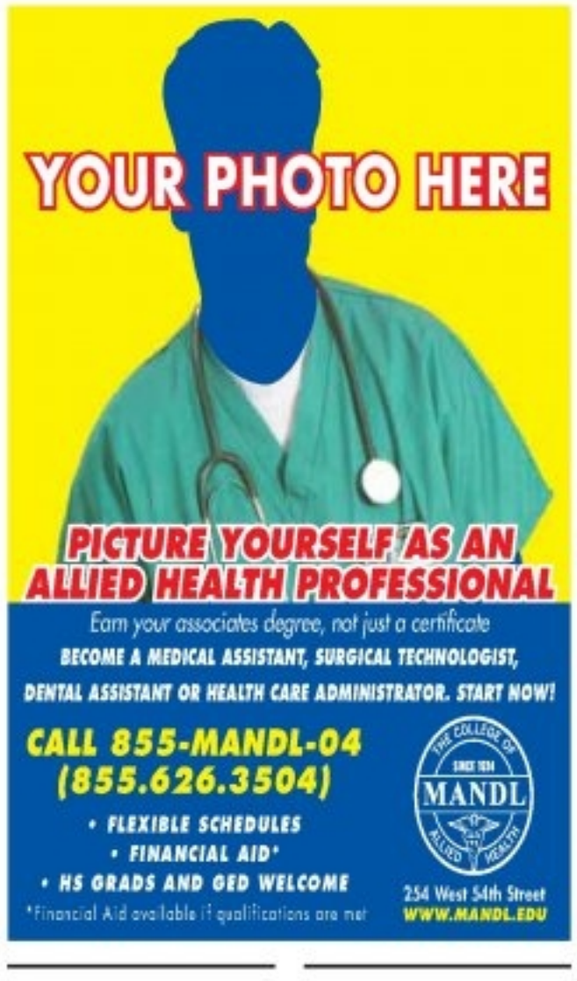
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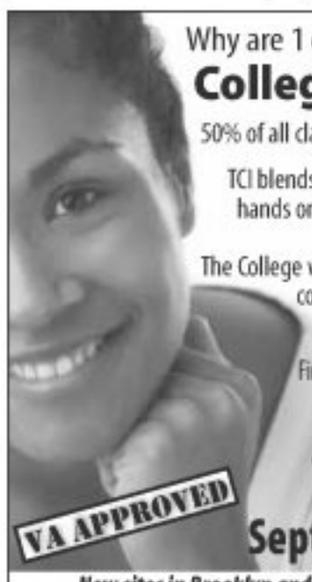
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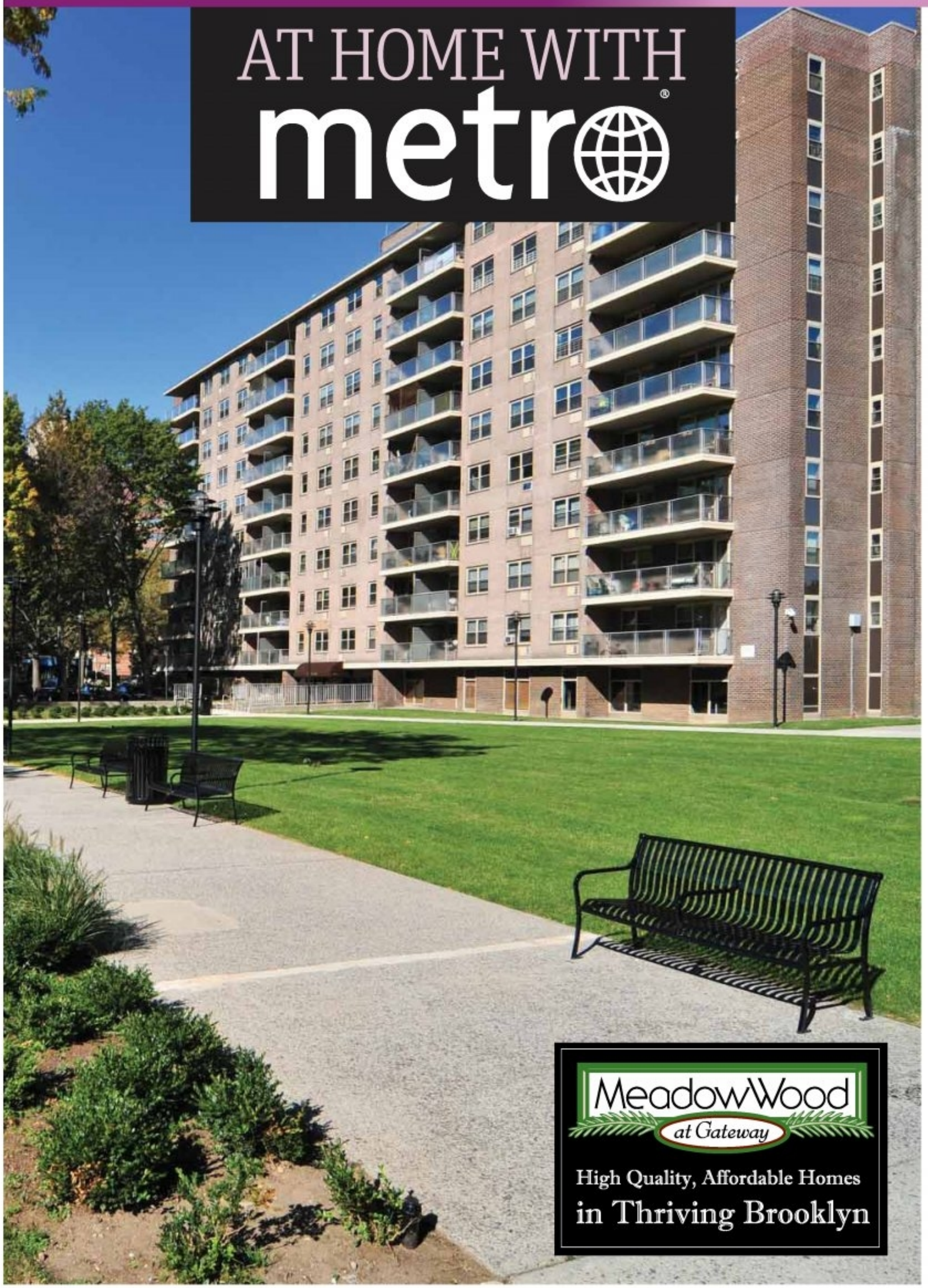

Market watch

CHEAPEST
$229K
217 E. 89th St.
The cheapest property listed this week is a first floor studio at 217 E. 89th St. This renovated co-op, with an included Murphy bed and a shared garden for the building's tenants, is listed by Sandra Greer Real Estate for $229K.

PRICIEST
$10.995M
595 West End Ave.
The most expensive property listed this week is a four bedroom condo at 595 West End Avenue. This floor-thru property, with ten rooms, a private elevator, and Hudson River views, is listed by Brown Harris Stevens for $10.995M.

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					1-3 Persons	4+More Persons
1 BR	1-2	3 (No Dining)	$630.06 - $713.87	$7,200	$44,814 - $65,506	N/A
1 BR	1-2	3.5 (w/ Dining)	$701.36 - $930.44	$8,400	$55,559 - $84,623	N/A
1 BR	1-2	4 (w/ Terrace)	$827.45 - $1,030.78	$9,600	$58,968 - $93,975	N/A
2 BR	2-4	4.5 (No Terrace)	$946.61 - $1,073.00	$10,800	$67,319 - $96,180***	$76,936 - $109,920***
2 BR	2-4	5 (w/ Terrace)	$875.48 - $1,129.18	$12,000	$67,998 - $104,090***	$77,712 - $118,960***

**Preference is given to all veterans, or their surviving spouses, who served on active duty in time of war as defined in Section 85 of the Civil Service Law, and reside in New York State.

*** Based on the total household income for the prior calendar year, less $1,000 for each personal and dependent exemption, and less $20,000 (or actual earnings if less) for each secondary wage earner. Households of three persons or more whose income does not exceed 125% of the maximum income listed shall also be eligible for admission and shall pay a carrying charge surcharge. Household income must be within the allowable income limit at time of application and at time of apartment availability.

TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION IN PERSON, please visit: Rochdale Village Management Office
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Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (718) 276-5700

TO REQUEST AN APPLICATION BY MAIL, please send a self-addressed envelope with 84 cents postage to:
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TO DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION, please visit www.rochdalevillage.com, click on the "Apartment Sales" link on the left menu bar.

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You're invited to 'Dina's Party'

The former Real Housewife comes back on TV with a series about her event-planning business Her best party-planning advice includes what to do to avoid drama (she would know!)

On "Dina's Party," viewers will see Dina Manzo planning fabulous fetes that are sure to be buzzed about long after the last slice of cake is served. We got her top tips for throwing a super soiree of your own.

Create a 'wow factor' at the entrance

Get the party started in a fun way by having a celebrity impersonator or "living statue" greet guests, Manzo advises. "If there's somewhere you could put your money, I would suggest putting it in the entrance."

Plan activities — but don't stress about following a schedule

"You can have some kind of outline but there should be some room for flexibility. Never ever stop a great party to do a little interactive something if you don't think it's gonna be as exciting as people dancing."

Get creative with food

Keep the bites small and easy to eat with one hand. "If people are gonna be walking around and mingling, you know a drink is gonna be in another hand. Keep in mind your guests and the flow of the party. You don't want to have people have to find a table and sit down to eat their appetizers."

But don't forget the table fare. "Don't just plop your dishes down. ... If you're serving something as simple as wine and cheese, if you build up levels and create some interest it's gonna be more of an experience."

Watch the booze

One pour too many can ruin it all. "I always make ... the bartender give us a head's up if there's someone drinking too much."

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More from Manzo

No party is complete without ...

"Great food in abundance. As great as the decor and the whole experience can be, you don't want people leaving hungry and having to go through a drive-through on the way home."

The first thing I ask myself when planning a party is ...

"What is the guest of honor really about? For me, it's not about just putting on another pretty party: I wanna make it about who the party's for."

The last finishing touch I put on my party is ...

"A deep breath and a smile, because you're there to get together and have a good time. And anything that goes wrong, most people aren't gonna notice."

Hurricane hangover fades, but economic turmoil persists

Normally busy fall real estate season may be a disappointment after turbulent August shakes confidence Renewed uncertainty a factor

August in NYC is usually a sleepy time. Last month, however, was anything but quiet. After a bruising political battle over the debt ceiling, the U.S. saw its AAA credit rating downgraded by Standard & Poor's for the first time in history, prompting the stock market to plummet. If that weren't enough, the city — already bracing for the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks — suffered an earthquake and a hurricane. In the same week.

These events are, at a minimum, distractions from the tribulations of the real estate market.

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Irene's wrath faded quickly for many, but the most recent round of financial turmoil will have a longer-term impact. Fall is usually one of the busiest times for real estate sales, but the renewed economic uncertainty could mean a disappointing autumn.

Already-skittish homebuyers are now even more reluctant to sign on the dotted line, brokers say.

"Immediately following the latest financial scare, some of my buyers pulled out of their deals," says Patricia Levan, president of the Manhattan-based Levan Real Estate.

Sellers were also influenced by the economic climate.

"We had [a] few sellers decide to drop the price and accept an offer that was lower than what they initially wanted to get," says Naomi Muramatsu, director of sales at Bond New York. Meanwhile she says, "It is taking a lot longer to negotiate the price and get the contract executed, and we have to be constantly on top of everybody to make sure it will move forward."

This fall, "I think activity is going to be questionable," says Heather McDonough, a vice president at Prudential Douglas Elliman. "Some people will still be sitting on the fence due to the economic uncertainty." CANDACE TAYLOR

TheRealDeal.com is a daily blog and monthly magazine covering real estate in the New York metro area.
THE REAL DEAL

▶ Many homebuyers are on the fence about signing deals heading into autumn.

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